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Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 79

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Report of the Second Committee (Part I)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ryszard RYSINSKI (Poland)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1990, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled:

"Development and international economic co-operation:

"(a) International development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade (1991-2000);

"(b) Trade and development;

"(c) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries;

"(d) Food problems;

"(e) New and renewable sources of energy;

"(f) Development of the energy resources of developing countries"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

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* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in eight parts (see also A/45/849/Add.1-7).

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2. The Second Committee held a general discussion of the item at the 19th to 21st, 23rd, 24th, and 39th to 47th meetings, on 22, 23, 29 October and 12, 13, 14, 19 and 20 November, and in particular of sub-items (a), (d), (e) and (f) at its 19th to 21st, 23rd and 24th meetings on 22, 23 and 29 October. The general discussion of sub-items (b) and (c) was held at the 44th to 47th meetings, on 19 and 20 November. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/45/SR.19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 44-47). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 8 to 11 October (see A/C.2/45/SR.2-9). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item will be given in addenda to the present report as follows:

A/45/849/Add.1: proposals not related to specific sub-items
Add.2: sub-item (a)
Add.3: sub-item (b)
Add.4: sub-item (c)
Add.5: sub-item (d)
Add.6: sub-item (e)
Add.7: sub-item (f)

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

A/45/3	Report of the Economic and Social Council for 1990 1/
A/45/25	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its special session 2/
A/45/64	Letter dated 11 December 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Castries Declaration issued at the sixteenth meeting of the Authority of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
A/45/73-S/21065	Letter dated 29 December 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Oman to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Final Communiqué of the tenth summit of the Supreme Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council, held at Muscat, Oman, from 18 to 21 December 1989

1/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/45/3/Rev.1).

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/45/25).

A/45/74-S/21068	Letter dated 30 December 1989 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the conclusions adopted by the Heads of State or Government of the Twelve States members of the European Community at the meeting of the European Council held at Strasbourg, France, on 8 and 9 December 1989
A/45/113 and Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Human resource development through technical co-operation"
A/45/138-S/21161	Letter dated 22 February 1990 from the Permanent Representatives of Indonesia and Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of a joint declaration of the Eighth Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations and the European Community held at Kuching, Malaysia, on 16 and 17 February 1990
A/45/160-S/21182	Letter dated 8 March 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Oman to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a press communiqué issued at the end of the thirty-fourth session of the States members of the Gulf Co-operation Council
A/45/164-S/21187	Letter dated 7 March 1990 from the Permanent Representatives of Thailand and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of a joint communiqué between Thailand and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, issued at Bangkok on 12 February 1990
A/45/276-E/1990/88	Letter dated 15 May 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Albania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a report of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Albania on the improvement of the economic mechanism
A/45/299	Letter dated 25 May 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting an extract from the report on the Preparatory Meeting of Island Developing Countries of the Caribbean held at Castries from 28 to 30 March 1990

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A/45/303	Letter dated 5 June 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the joint communiqué adopted by the First Meeting of the Summit Level Group for South-South Consultations and Co-operation, Group of 15, held at Kuala Lumpur from 1 to 3 June 1990
A/45/310-S/21355	Letter dated 12 June 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Oman to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of a press communiqué issued at Taif, Saudi Arabia, on 4 June 1990, by the thirty-fifth session of the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council
A/45/334-E/1990/100	Letter dated 2 July 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of a resolution entitled "Latin American and Caribbean Proposal for a Solution to its External Debt Problem"
A/45/350	Letter dated 16 July 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, containing an announcement by the Government of Japan regarding driftnet fishing in the South Pacific
A/45/381-E/1990/118	Letter dated 3 August 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the decrees of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania on the further development of the economic and social life of the country, approved at Tirana on 31 July 1990
A/45/451	Report of the Secretary-General on developing human resources for development
A/45/487	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution on trends in the transfer of resources to and from the developing countries and their impact on the economic growth and sustained development of those countries
A/45/491	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development on patterns of consumption and qualitative indicators of development

A/45/584	Letter dated 4 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Bolivia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member States of the Group of 77 adopted on 3 October 1990 on the occasion of their fourteenth annual meeting
A/45/597	Letter dated 8 October 1990 from the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Hungary and of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the joint statement adopted at Kiev on 27 September 1990
A/45/598	Letter dated 3 October 1990 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Secretary of State of the United States of America addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Joint American-Soviet Statement: Responsibility for Peace and Security in the Changing World
A/45/657	Letter dated 19 October 1990 from the Permanent Representatives of Poland and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Declaration on Principles and Basic Directions of the Development of Ukrainian-Polish Co-operation
A/45/663	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution on large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas
A/45/666	Note verbale dated 23 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the documents of the Siena Forum on International Law of the Environment
A/45/675	Letter dated 26 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting documents issued by the Presidents of the Rio Group on the occasion of the Presidential Meeting of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and concerted Political Action, held at Caracas on 11 and 12 October 1990
A/C.2/45/5	Letter dated 2 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the least developed countries

A/C.2/45/12 — Letter dated 14 November 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting documents entitled "A Call to Action: Communiqué from the Seventh Ministerial Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean" and "The Port-of-Spain Accord on the Management and Conservation of the Caribbean Environment"

A/C.2/45/14 — Letter dated 7 December 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Declaration of the Nine on the Dialogue and Co-operation in the Western Mediterranean

A/C.2/45/L.4 — Draft resolution entitled "International conference on money and finance for development"

(a) International development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade (1991-2000)

A/45/3 — Report of the Economic and Social Council, chap. IV, sect. B.2 1/

A/45/41 — Report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole for the Preparation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade 3/

(b) Trade and development

A/45/3 — Report of the Economic and Social Council, chap. IV, sect. B.1 1/

A/45/15 — Report of the Trade and Development Board on the second part of its thirty-sixth session and on the first part of its thirty-seventh session and sixteenth special session 4/

3/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 41 (A/45/41).

4/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/45/15).

A/45/442 and Corr.1	Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on world commodity trends and prospects
A/45/453 and Add.1	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution on specific measures in favour of island developing countries
A/45/565	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution on the trade embargo against Nicaragua
A/45/588	Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the international code of conduct on the transfer of technology
A/C.2/45/11	Letter dated 20 November 1990 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Second Committee, regarding the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held at Punta del Este, Uruguay, from 21 September to 8 October 1991

(c) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries

A/45/695	Report of the Secretary-General on the Review and appraisal of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries: Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

(d) Food problems

A/45/3	Report of the Economic and Social Council, chap. IV, sect. B.3 1/
A/45/19	Report of the World Food Council on its sixteenth session 5/
A/45/583	Report of the Secretary-General on trends in the international market for agricultural and tropical products and the liberalization of international agricultural trade

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5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 19 (A/45/19).

A/C.2/45/9 — Letter dated 8 November 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a communiqué adopted at the Cairns Ministerial Meeting held at Geneva on 5 November 1990

(e) New and Renewable sources of energy

A/45/3 — Report of the Economic and Social Council, chap. IV, sect. B.5 1/

A/45/36 and Add.1 — Report of the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy 6/

(f) Development of the energy resources of developing countries

A/45/3 — Report of the Economic and Social Council, chap. IV, sect. B.5 1/

A/45/274-E/1990/73 and Corr.1 — Report of the Secretary-General on energy exploration and development trends in developing countries

4. At the 19th meeting, on 22 October 1990, introductory statements on sub-items (a), (d), (e) and (f) were made by the Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs, the Executive Director of the World Food Council and the Special Co-ordinator for New and Renewable Sources of Energy. A representative of the Joint Inspection Unit also made a statement (see A/C.2/45/SR.19).

5. At the 21st meeting, on 23 October, an introductory statement was made by the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development under sub-item 79 (d) (see A/C.2/45/SR.21).

6. At the 39th meeting, on 12 November, introductory statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization and the Under-Secretary-General for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (see A/C.2/45/SR.39).

7. At the 44th meeting, on 19 November, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development made an introductory statement on sub-items (b) and (c) (see A/C.2/45/SR.44).

6/ Ibid., Supplement No. 36 (A/45/36).

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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Report of the Second Committee (Part II)

Rapporteur: Mr. Ryszard RYSINSKI (Poland)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 79 (see A/45/849, para. 2). Action to be taken on the item was considered at the 42nd, 43rd, 48th, 49th and 52nd to 54th meetings, on 14, 26 and 28 November and 7, 10 and 11 December 1990. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/45/SR.42, 43, 48, 49 and 52-54).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/45/L.4

2. By its decision 44/448 of 22 December 1989, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee, decided to defer until its forty-fifth session consideration of the draft resolution entitled "International conference on money and finance for development" (see A/C.2/45/L.4).

3. At its 54th meeting, on 11 December, following a statement by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Carlos Gianelli (Uruguay), the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should defer consideration of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/45/L.4 until its forty-sixth session (see para. 43, draft decision).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/45/L.30 and L.78

4. At the 42nd meeting, on 14 November, the representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Developing human resources for development" (A/C.2/45/L.30), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming that the human being is at the centre of all development activities,

"Considering that human resources are an essential means of achieving economic and social development goals,

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/213 of 22 December 1989 on developing human resources for development and other earlier resolutions on the same subject, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/120 of 28 July 1989 on the development of human resources,

"Referring to General Assembly resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, containing the Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries and 45/___, containing the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, in particular the relevant sections therein on human resources development,

"Stressing the continued validity of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the Region of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 1/ the Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa, 2/ the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation 3/ and the communiqué of the tenth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, held at Grand Anse, Grenada, in July 1989, 4/ which was reaffirmed in the Kingston Declaration adopted at the eleventh Meeting, in August 1990,

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"1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1988, Supplement No. 11 (E/1988/35), chap. IV, resolution 274 (XLIV), annex.

"2/ A/43/430, annex I.

"3/ A/44/315, annex.

"4/ A/44/477, annex.

"Recognizing that the concept of human resources development, while technically referring only to the human resource component of specific development programmes, also encompasses in a broad sense many other components, requiring integrated and concerted strategies, policies, plans and programmes to ensure the development of the full potential of human beings,

"Emphasizing that education, which facilitates the acquisition and upgrading of skills, and continued demand-oriented technical training are inextricably linked to economic growth and sustained development of developing countries,

"Reaffirming that each country has the prerogative to choose its approach to human resources development in accordance with its national priorities, values, traditions and cultures and stage of development,

"Recognizing that distance education programmes, enhanced by advances in communications technology and informatics, can broaden and improve the range of resources available to developing countries and can thus play a significant role in helping them meet their general education and priority training needs,

"Stressing the importance of international co-operation in supporting and strengthening the development of human resources in developing countries and stressing also that both North-South and South-South co-operation, including economic and technical co-operation among developing countries, can play a valuable role in this field,

"Emphasizing the need for the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

"Noting the Human Development Report 1990 5/ and the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on human resource development through technical co-operation, 6/

"1. Welcomes the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, adopted by the World Summit for Children, held at New York on 30 September 1990, 7/ as well as the African Charter for Popular Participation

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"5/ Published for the United Nations Development Programme by Oxford University Press (New York and Oxford, 1990).

"6/ A/45/113.

"7/ A/45/625, annex.

in Development and Transformation, adopted by the International Conference on Popular Participation in the Recovery and Development Process in Africa, held at Arusha in February 1990; 8/

"2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on human resources development; 9/

"3. Recognizes that the achievement of a higher living standard and the well-being of individuals and peoples in general, through self-reliance and sustained development, constitutes one of the basic goals of human resources development in developing countries;

"4. Emphasizes that education and continued objective-directed training are the most essential element in human resources development;

"5. Emphasizes the importance of advanced technologies and means of communication in the training and educational processes in developing countries and, in this context, stresses the importance of intensified international co-operation for this purpose, particularly through the transfer of technology to developing countries;

"6. Stresses the need for increased emphasis on co-operation in distance education programmes as an important method of accelerating human resources development in developing countries;

"7. Emphasizes the vital importance of qualified national personnel in enhancing capacity-building in developing countries and calls upon the international community to pay greater attention to the serious problem of the brain drain from developing countries;

"8. Emphasizes the need for human resources development strategies to concentrate on supportive measures in vital and related areas such as health, nutrition, water, sanitation, housing, communications and employment, and to assess the progress in those areas through appropriate qualitative and quantitative indicators;

"9. Stresses that the search for solutions to the problems of the most vulnerable groups of population in developing countries, such as children, the elderly and the poor, should constitute an integral part of human resources development strategies;

"10. Stresses that the role of women should be more fully taken into account in human resources development strategies so that women can better contribute to and benefit from development processes;

"8/ E/ECA/CM.16/11.

"9/ A/45/451.

"11. Recognizes the importance of the development of young people and their participation in human resources development programmes in developing countries;

"12. Stresses the vital role that the public sector plays in the growth and development of developing countries by contributing, inter alia, to furthering the implementation of policies, plans and programmes of human resources development;

"13. Stresses the importance of international support for human resources development in developing countries and the need to increase the flow of resources to developing countries for those activities;

"14. Calls upon the international community, including the multilateral financial and development institutions, to support the efforts of developing countries in human resources development, in accordance with their national priorities and plans, through, inter alia, operational activities of the United Nations;

"15. Requests the Secretary-General to designate an appropriate focal point to co-ordinate the activities of different bodies of the United Nations system related to human resources development;

"16. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in that report elements for possible incorporation in a programme of action on human resources development;

"17. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session an item entitled 'Human resources development'."

5. At its 53rd meeting, on 10 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution (A/C.2/45/L.78) submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Carlos Gianelli (Uruguay), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.30.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.78, without a vote (see para. 42, draft resolution I).

7. After the resolution was adopted, the representatives of the Philippines and Italy (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community) made statements (see A/C.2/45/SR.53).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.78, draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.30 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/45/L.31 and L.94

9. At the 42nd meeting, on 14 November, the representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Net transfer of resources from developing countries and their impact on the economic growth and sustained development of those countries" (A/C.2/45/L.31), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, containing the Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,

"Recalling also its resolution 44/232 of 22 December 1989,

"Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1989/112 of 28 July 1989 and 1990/56 of 26 July 1990,

"1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the net transfer of resources from developing countries; 1/

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a comprehensive and analytical report on the causes of and factors relating to the net transfer of resources from developing countries and its impact on their economic growth and sustained development, with a view to halting and reversing this phenomenon as soon as possible."

"1/ A/45/487.

10. At its 54th meeting, on 11 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Net transfer of resources between developing countries and developed countries" (A/C.2/45/L.94), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Carlos Gianelli (Uruguay), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.31.

11. Before the draft resolution was adopted the representative of China made a statement (see A/C.2/45/SR.54).

12. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.94 without a vote (see para. 42, draft resolution II).

13. After the resolution was adopted, the representative of Italy (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community) made a statement (see A/C.2/45/SR.54).

14. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.94, draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.31 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

D. Draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.35 and Rev.1

15. At the 43rd meeting, on 14 November, the representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Unification of Yemen: support of the international community for its economic and social infrastructure" (A/C.2/45/L.35), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Welcoming the merger on 22 May 1990 of the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to form a single sovereign State called the Republic of Yemen,

"Taking into consideration the Ministerial Declaration issued by the fourteenth annual meeting of the Group of 77, held in New York on 1 October 1990, in which the world community was requested to render support for the economic and social infrastructure of Yemen so as to achieve prosperity for its people,

"Realizing the difficult economic situation facing Yemen as a result of the merger of the economic and social infrastructure following the unification of Yemen, in addition to the new economic and social burden resulting from the situation between Iraq and Kuwait,

"1. Expresses its solidarity with Yemen in its efforts to overcome these conditions;

"2. Calls upon States and governmental and international non-governmental organizations to extend their assistance in support of the national efforts to improve the economic and social infrastructure of Yemen;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to assist in mobilizing resources and to develop a comprehensive programme to assess the needs of Yemen in order to enable the world community to extend assistance to meet those needs;

"4. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1991."

16. At its 52nd meeting, on 7 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "The unification of Yemen: support of the international community for its economic and social infrastructure" (A/C.2/45/L.35/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.35 on the basis of informal consultations.

17. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.35/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 42, draft resolution III).

18. After the Committee adopted the draft resolution, the representative of Yemen made a statement (see A/C.2/45/SR.52).

E. Draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.36 and Rev.1

19. At the 42nd meeting, on 14 November 1990, the representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Economic stabilization programmes in developing countries" (A/C.2/45/L.36), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, containing the Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,

"Recalling also its resolution S-13/2 of 1 June 1986, the annex of which contains the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990,

"Recalling further its resolution 44/24 of 17 November 1989 on the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-Economic Recovery and Transformation,

"Recalling its resolution 44/212 of 22 December 1989 on international co-operation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries,

"Deeply concerned by the difficult economic situation facing most developing countries, which has severe political and social consequences,

"Reaffirming that the reactivation of economic growth and development in the developing countries will require a concerted and committed effort by all countries and should be addressed in the context of the increasing interdependence and integration in the world economy,

"Recognizing the significant efforts being undertaken by developing countries in order to achieve the revitalization of their economic growth and development,

"Reaffirming that a supportive international economic environment is crucial to the revitalization of economic growth and development of developing countries,

"1. Stresses that adequate measures should be taken at the international and national levels, as appropriate, to counteract the negative economic conditions which have prevailed in developing countries during the past decade;

"2. Stresses also the urgent need for ensuring the integration of the human dimension in the formulation and implementation of structural adjustment programmes with the aim of mitigating their adverse socio-economic effects;

"3. Stresses further that structural adjustment programmes should contribute to the modernization, diversification and growth of the economies of the developing countries and, at the same time, to the fulfilment of the aim of improving the human condition, especially the standard of living and quality of life of people, in particular the most vulnerable groups of the population;

"4. Calls upon the organs and organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to undertake a more detailed and focused analysis of the relevant socio-economic indicators in order to assess closely the socio-economic impact of the adjustment process;

"5. Emphasizes the need for appropriate measures to ensure that stabilization and adjustment programmes provide for long-term and sustained development as well as the improvement of human and social conditions in developing countries;

"6. Emphasizes also that the efforts of developing countries to stabilize their economies will depend, particularly, on the creation of a supportive international economic environment; in that regard, committed and concerted action should be undertaken urgently by the international community in order to find a durable solution to the problem of external indebtedness, to halt and reverse the net transfer of resources from developing countries and its negative impact, to increase financial flows, to develop a more open, durable and viable trading system, and to ensure effective access to new and emerging technologies by developing countries; the co-ordination of macro-economic policies should take full account of the interests and concerns of all countries, particularly the developing countries;

"7. Calls upon Governments, international organizations, multilateral financial institutions, bodies, organs and organizations of the United Nations system to take appropriate measures designed to increase financial flows to developing countries with a view to ensuring that the resources available to them are commensurate with their efforts to attain their economic and social objectives, particularly those that affect the most vulnerable groups of the population, including programmes of social compensation;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

20. At its 53rd meeting, on 10 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/45/L.36/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.36, on the basis of informal consultations.

21. At the same meeting, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Carlos Gianelli (Uruguay), orally amended the revised draft resolution as follows: in the seventh preambular paragraph, replace "is" by "and appropriate national policies are".

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.36/Rev.1, as orally amended, without a vote (see para. 42, draft resolution IV).

23. After the Committee adopted the draft resolution, the Assistant Secretary-General for Development Research and Policy Analysis, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, as well as the representatives of Bolivia, Pakistan, Colombia, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Ecuador made statements (see A/C.2/45/SR.53).

F. Draft resolutions A/C.2/45/L.39 and L.80

24. At the 42nd meeting, on 14 November, the representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the South Commission" (A/C.2/45/L.39). Subsequently Canada and China joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Emphasizing the need to promote the ideas contained in important contributions regarding the process of development of the developing countries, assessing the achievements, analysing the failings and suggesting directions for reform,

"1. Welcomes the book entitled The Challenge to the South: The Report of the South Commission 1/ and the executive summary of its conclusions and recommendations; 2/

"2. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the President of the Economic and Social Council, to convene a meeting, during the 1991 second regular session of the Council, devoted to an informal exchange of views on the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the South Commission - in particular, in its executive summary;

"3. Invites Governments and the organs, bodies and organizations of the United Nations system to submit their views on the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the South Commission - in particular, in its executive summary - for consideration at the aforementioned meeting of the Economic and Social Council;

"1/ New York, Oxford University Press, 1990.

"2/ Prepared by the South Commission as pre-publication information.

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to co-ordinate appropriate action to promote the recommendations contained in the report of the South Commission - in particular, in its executive summary."

25. At its 53rd meeting, on 10 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution (A/C.2/45/L.80) submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Carlos Gianelli (Uruguay), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.39.

26. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.80, without a vote (see para. 42, draft resolution V).

27. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.80, draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.39 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

G. Draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.42 and Rev.1

28. At the 42nd meeting, on 14 November, the representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Industrial development co-operation and diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries" (A/C.2/45/L.42), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrial Development and Co-operation, 1/ which called for, inter alia, raising the share of developing countries in world industrial production to at least 25 per cent by the year 2000, and the New Delhi Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrialization of Developing Countries and International Co-operation for their Industrial Development, 2/ in which a strategy was spelt out for further industrialization of developing countries,

"Recalling its resolutions 35/66 of 5 December 1980, 36/182 of 17 December 1981, 37/212 of 20 December 1982 and 38/192 of 20 December 1983, as well as other relevant resolutions in the field of industrial development co-operation,

"Recalling also its resolution 44/237 of 22 December 1989 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, in which it proclaimed the period 1991-2000 the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and proclaimed 20 November as Africa Industrialization Day, for the purpose of mobilizing the commitment of the international community to the industrialization of Africa,

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"1/ See A/10112, chap. IV.

"2/ ID/CONF.4/22 and Corr.1, chap. VI.

"Recalling further its resolutions 42/186 and 42/187 of 11 December 1987, 43/53 of 6 December 1988, 43/196 of 20 December 1988 and 44/228 and 44/229 of 22 December 1989, relating to environment and development, and reaffirming, inter alia, the need for developed countries and the appropriate organs and organizations of the United Nations system to assist developing countries in enhancing their capacity for identifying, analysing, monitoring, managing and preventing damage to the environment by industries in accordance with their national development plans, priorities and objectives,

"Stressing the relevant sections of the Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, adopted at its eighteenth special session, 3/ and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 4/

"Deeply concerned that although fifteen years have elapsed since the adoption of the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action, the share of the developing countries in world industrial production remains around the same low level of 10 per cent,

"Convinced that the reactivation of economic growth and development of developing countries would be facilitated through their industrial development, including industrial development in sectors where they may not currently enjoy international comparative advantage, considering the dynamic nature of comparative advantage,

"Recognizing the necessity of properly assisting all developing countries at their different stages of industrialization, mainly through the development and strengthening of industrial infrastructures, the modernization of production capabilities and the improvement of training techniques,

"Recognizing also that the efforts of developing countries to develop their industrial and technological capabilities should be supported by the international community and that the transfer of technology to developing countries is essential in this regard,

"Aware that in selecting patterns of industrialization the developing countries should take into account the need to generate employment and their ability to incorporate new and emerging environmentally sound technologies,

"Convinced that in order to promote the industrial development of developing countries, their indigenous capabilities in such areas as entrepreneurship, management, technology, financing and marketing need to be built up or strengthened and that technical and financial assistance would need to be extended to the developing countries for this purpose,

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"3/ Resolution S-18/3.

"4/ Resolution 45/___.

"Recognizing that any viable process of industrialization requires an adequately high and increasing level of demand, which can be substantially reinforced in respect of developing countries through open access for their manufactures to the expanding markets of the developed countries,

"Recognizing also that steady growth in agricultural productivity can be achieved through the application of industrial inputs and the mechanization of agriculture, which is possible only if a reasonable pace of industrialization is ensured,

"Recognizing further that the promotion of agro-industries plays a key role in the industrialization of developing countries,

"Convinced that industrial progress in developing countries can also be significantly enhanced through co-operation among such countries at all levels and by integrating markets, setting up joint ventures and programmes for training and upgrading skills and developing human resources, which should be among the objectives of policies and measures to promote industrialization in developing countries,

"Aware that foreign direct investment can make an important contribution to industrialization in developing countries, not only by providing additional financial resources, but also as a means of providing access to modern environmentally sound technologies, skills and markets,

"Convinced that entrepreneurship should be encouraged at all levels and in all sectors for the setting up of industries and that there is a strong potential for the development of small and medium-sized industries that could contribute to the expansion of both urban and rural employment opportunities,

"Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization as the co-ordinating organ in the United Nations system having primary responsibility within the United Nations system for promoting the transfer of industrial technology to developing countries and for the promotion and acceleration of their industrial development,

"1. Invites developed countries to take fully into account the broad international implications of their policy decisions on the economies of the developing countries, including their industrial development;

"2. Stresses that developing countries need to provide adequate support to their infant industries to enable them to build up their industrial capacities;

"3. Emphasizes the need for more effective international co-operation through all appropriate mechanisms, including training, workshops, seminars, fellowships and international conferences, in order to ensure, improve and accelerate access and transfer to the developing countries of environmentally sound technologies, including new and emerging ones;

"4. Calls upon the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and other international organizations to help developing countries evaluate and select industrial technologies suitable for their development, and to that end, inter alia, to prepare directories listing types and sources of technologies available in different countries, including those in developing countries, and to assist in the establishment of business and technology information centres in developing countries;

"5. Stresses the role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in assisting developing countries in the formulation of scientific and technological programmes and plans for industrialization in their countries, and welcomes the special trust fund schemes launched by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to develop alternatives to traditional assistance programmes;

"6. Recognizes the need to support co-operation among developing countries in this regard, including the sharing of information on the terms and conditions on which they acquire technologies from developed countries, with a view to improving their capabilities in negotiating with technology suppliers;

"7. Also recognizes that there are significant opportunities for economic and technical co-operation among developing countries in regard to their industrialization and, in this context, calls upon developed countries and international organizations to support such co-operative ventures;

"8. Further recognizes that in promoting the industrial development of developing countries special emphasis should be placed on an appropriate mix of the agricultural, industrial and service sectors among small, medium-sized and large industries, depending upon the conditions obtaining in each developing country;

"9. Requests the Secretary-General, in close co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the World Bank, to elaborate a study on the feasibility of creating a United Nations system fund aimed at ensuring adequate and effective financing for training scientists, engineers and entrepreneurs in developing countries, with a view to promoting all related sectors and disciplines supporting industrial development, modernization and diversification of productive activities in developing countries, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General to include in the agenda of the next session of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination an item entitled 'Industrial development, modernization and the diversification of productive activities in developing countries', with a view to elaborating a United Nations system-wide plan of action for the promotion of this issue, including concrete ways and means to support developing countries more effectively and efficiently in their efforts in this regard, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

"11. Requests the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, to make concrete proposals and recommendations, with a view to establishing priority programmes, including technical and financial co-operation, to be carried out in support of industrial development, modernization and the diversification of productive activities in developing countries, for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council;

"12. Requests the Secretary-General to give highest priority in the medium-term plan to the issue of industrial development, modernization and the diversification of productive activities in developing countries;

"13. Decides to include an item entitled 'Industrialization, modernization and the diversification of productive activities in developing countries' in the agenda of its forty-sixth session."

29. At its 54th meeting, on 11 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/45/L.42/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.42 on the basis of informal consultations.

30. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.42/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 42, draft resolution VI).

H. Draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.50 and L.77

31. At the 48th meeting, on 26 November, the representative of Trinidad and Tobago, on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominica, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Haiti, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Vanuatu and Venezuela, subsequently joined by Cameroon, Ghana, Mozambique, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Singapore, Uganda, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas" (A/C.2/45/L.50). The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 44/225, on large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas, which was adopted by consensus on 22 December 1989,

"Also recalling in particular that the General Assembly recommended that all members of the international community agree to certain measures specified in the operative paragraphs of resolution 44/225,

"Further recalling the relevant principles elaborated in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1/ which are referred to in the seventh to tenth preambular paragraphs of resolution 44/225,

"Commending the unilateral, regional and international efforts that have been undertaken by members of the international community and international organizations to implement and support the objectives of resolution 44/225,

"Noting that at the Twenty-first South Pacific Forum, held at Port Vila, Vanuatu, on 31 July and 1 August 1990, the Heads of Government reaffirmed their opposition to large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing, 2/ and noting also the resolution on large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing in the South Pacific region, adopted by the South Pacific Conference at Noumea, New Caledonia, on 31 October 1990,

"Welcoming the decision of a Member State to suspend driftnet operations in the South Pacific one year in advance of the date of cessation stipulated by the General Assembly, and the decision of other Member States to cease or suspend driftnet fishing,

"Noting that the Authority of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, at its 16th meeting, held at Castries, St. Lucia, in November 1989, resolved, in its Declaration, 3/ to establish a regional régime for the regulation and management of the pelagic resources in the Lesser Antilles region that would outlaw the use of driftnets and called upon other States in the region to co-operate in that regard, and noting also the more recent developments in the region covered by the Caribbean Community,

"Noting that the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission has been concerned with large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing in the North Pacific Ocean, including the need to accumulate scientific knowledge, and has supported the full implementation of Assembly resolution 44/225,

"Also noting that the International Whaling Commission, at its 42nd annual meeting, in July 1990, referred to the use of large-scale pelagic driftnets in many areas of the high seas, including important habitats for cetaceans encompassing feeding and breeding grounds and migratory pathways and endorsed Assembly resolution 44/225,

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"1/ Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

"2/ See A/45/456, annex.

"3/ See A/45/64, annex.

"Further noting that, at its first session, the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development requested the Secretary-General of the Conference, inter alia, to prepare, for submission to the Preparatory Committee at its second session, a comprehensive report on the impact of large-scale harvesting, and new fishing technologies and fishing technologies incompatible with the sustainable management of living marine resources, taking into account Assembly resolution 44/225, 4/

"Noting with appreciation the contribution to the report of the Secretary-General 5/ made by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations systems and by various regional and subregional fisheries organizations, in response to the request of the Assembly in paragraph 6 of its resolution 44/225,

"Also noting with appreciation the contribution to the report of the Secretary-General made voluntarily by some members of the international community, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations,

"Noting that some members of the international community have initiated co-operative efforts to obtain statistically sound data on the impact of large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing,

"Expressing deep concern about the reported attempts to expand large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing on the high seas of the Atlantic Ocean by a member of the international community, in disregard of paragraph 4 (c) of Assembly resolution 44/225,

"Expressing concern about that reported reflagging of vessels by some private fishing interests, which is contrary to the spirit and content of resolution 44/225,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 5/

"2. Reaffirms its resolution 44/225, and calls for its full implementation by all members of the international community, in accordance with the measures and time-frame elaborated in paragraph 4 of that resolution;

"3. Reaffirms the importance of all members of the international community taking such measures as may be necessary to ensure compliance with paragraph 4 (c) of resolution 44/225;

"4/ A/45/46, annex I, decision 1/20, para. 1 (o).

"5/ A/45/663.

"4. Requests the specialized agencies and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as the various global, regional and subregional fishery organizations, to continue to study urgently large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing and its impact on living marine resources and to report their views to the Secretary-General, bearing in mind the dates set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of resolution 44/225;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, and well-established scientific institutions with expertise in relation to living marine resources;

"6. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

32. At the 54th meeting, on 11 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/45/L.77) submitted by him on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.50.

33. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.77 without a vote (see para. 42, draft resolution VII).

34. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Turkey made a statement (see A/C.2/45/SR.54).

35. The representative of the Commission for the European Communities also made a statement (see A/C.2/45/SR.54).

36. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.77, draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.50 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

I. Draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.54 and Rev.1

37. At the 49th meeting, on 28 November, the representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Inclusion of Namibia in the list of least developed countries" (A/C.2/45/L.54), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the resolution adopted by the second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris from 3 to 14 September 1990, recommending that Namibia should be given special treatment, as accorded to the least developed countries, over the whole range of action in support of

economic and social development, and inviting the General Assembly to consider the question of the inclusion of Namibia in the list of least developed countries, 1/

"Also recalling the Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the Least Developed Countries, 2/ adopted in New York on 1 October 1990, by which, inter alia, the General Assembly was invited to consider the matter,

"1. Requests the Economic and Social Council to consider at its second regular session of 1991, on a priority basis, the question of the inclusion of Namibia in the list of least developed countries;

"2. Decides, in the interim, to give Namibia special treatment and to take an expeditious decision on the matter following the completion of all formalities."

"1/ See A/45/695, para. 46.

"2/ A/C.2/45/5, annex.

38. At its 53rd meeting, on 10 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/45/L.54/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.54 on the basis of informal consultations.

39. Before the resolution was adopted, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement (see A/C.2/45/SR.53).

40. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.54/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 42, draft resolution VIII).

41. After the Committee adopted the draft resolution the representative of the United States of America made a statement (see A/C.2/45/SR.53).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

42. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Developing human resources for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that the human being is at the centre of all development activities,

Considering that human resources are an essential means of achieving economic and social development goals,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/213 of 22 December 1989 on developing human resources for development and other earlier resolutions on the same subject, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/120 of 28 July 1989 on the development of human resources,

Referring to General Assembly resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, containing the Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries and 45/___, containing the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, in particular the relevant sections therein on human resources development,

Reaffirming the contribution to the elaboration of the concept of human resources development made by the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the Region of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 1/ the Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa, 2/ the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation 3/ and the communiqué of the tenth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, held at Grand Anse, Grenada, in July 1989, 4/

Welcoming the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 30 September 1990, 5/ as well as the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation, adopted at the twenty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Africa and sixteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for Economic Planning and Development, 6/ the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris in September 1990, and the World

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1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1988, Supplement No. 11 (E/1988/35), chap. IV, resolution 274 (XLIV), annex.

2/ A/43/430, annex I.

3/ A/44/315, annex.

4/ A/44/477, annex.

5/ A/45/625, annex.

6/ A/45/427, appendix II.

Declaration on Education for All and the Framework for Action to Meet Basic Training Needs, adopted by the World Conference on Education for All, held at Jomtien, Thailand, in March 1990,

Noting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on human resources development through technical co-operation, 7/

Recognizing that the concept of human resources development, while specifically referring only to the human resource component of development programming, is intimately linked in a broad sense with many other elements and requires integrated and concerted strategies, policies, plans and programmes to ensure the development of the full potential of human beings,

Recognizing that human resources development should contribute to total human development, which enlarges the choices available to people in developing their lives and in fulfilling their aspirations,

Reaffirming that strategies and policies for human resources development of each country should be in accordance with its national priorities, values, traditions, culture and stage of development,

Emphasizing that education, in particular basic education, which facilitates the acquisition and upgrading of skills, and continued demand-oriented technical training are inextricably linked to economic growth and sustained development of developing countries,

Recognizing the importance of improved educational opportunities for women and their greater integration into the development process,

Recognizing that education and training programmes, including distance education programmes, utilizing appropriate and sustainable technologies can broaden and improve the range of resources available to developing countries, helping them meet their requirements with regard to human resources development,

Stressing the importance of international co-operation in supporting national efforts for human resources development in developing countries and stressing also that both North-South and South-South co-operation, including economic and technical co-operation among developing countries, can play a valuable role in this field,

Emphasizing the need for the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on human resources development; 8/

7/ See A/45/113.

8/ A/45/451.

2. Takes note, with appreciation, of the human-centred approach to the development process set out in the Human Development Report 1990, sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme, invites Governments to give due consideration to the ideas and recommendations contained therein, and invites the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to do likewise, bearing in mind the work expected on the report;

3. Recognizes that the achievement of a higher standard of living and the well-being of individuals and peoples in general, through self-reliance and sustained development, constitutes one of the basic goals of human resources development in developing countries;

4. Emphasizes that human resources development in a context of political freedom, popular participation, respect for human rights, justice and equity, is essential to economic growth and development;

5. Emphasizes that basic education and continued objective-directed training are the most essential elements in human resources development;

6. Recognizes the importance of appropriate and sustainable technologies in the training and educational processes in developing countries and, in this context, stresses the role of intensified international co-operation through, inter alia, the transfer of technology relevant for that purpose;

7. Stresses the need for increased emphasis on co-operation in education programmes, including distance education programmes, in accelerating human resources development in developing countries;

8. Emphasizes the vital importance of national capacity-building in developing countries and encourages the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, to intensify activities in support of national efforts in this regard;

9. Emphasizes also the critical importance of qualified national personnel in national capacity-building and calls upon the international community to pay greater attention to the serious problem of the brain drain from developing countries;

10. Emphasizes the need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies for human development, including supportive measures in vital and related areas such as population, health, nutrition, water, sanitation, housing, communications and employment, and to assess the progress in those areas through appropriate qualitative and quantitative indicators;

11. Stresses that the search for solutions to the problems of the most vulnerable population groups in developing countries should constitute an integral part of human resources development strategies;

12. Recognizes that improving the economic and social status of women is essential to the attainment of human resources development objectives, and stresses

that their role should be fully taken into account in human resources development strategies so that they can better contribute to and benefit from development processes;

13. Recognizes also the importance of the development of children and young people and their integration into human resources development programmes in developing countries;

14. Stresses the vital importance of co-operation between the public and the private sectors in human resources development, particularly through the effective implementation of policies, plans and programmes for economic development and the optimal use of resources to that end;

15. Stresses the importance of international support for national efforts and regional programmes towards human resources development in developing countries and the need to increase the flow of resources to developing countries for those activities;

16. Calls upon the international community, including the multilateral financial and development institutions, to support the efforts of developing countries in human resources development, in accordance with their national priorities and plans, through, inter alia, operational activities of the United Nations system;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including ways and means of strengthening his co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations system related to human resources development, as well as proposals for action by members of the international community to further promote and intensify co-operation in this field;

18. Decides to include in the agenda of its forty-sixth session an item entitled "Human resources development".

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Net transfer of resources between developing countries and developed countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, containing the Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,

Recalling also its resolution 44/232 of 22 December 1989, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1989/112 of 28 July 1989 and 1990/56 of 26 July 1990,

1. Takes note with interest of the report of the Secretary-General on the net transfer of resources from developing countries; 9/

2. Requests the Secretary-General to include in the World Economic Survey, 1991 an update of the section concerning causes of and factors related to the net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries and its impact on the economic growth and sustained development of developing countries, and to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a comprehensive and analytical report with a view to halting and reversing this phenomenon.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

The unification of Yemen: support of the international community for its economic and social infrastructure

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the merger on 22 May 1990 of the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to form a single sovereign State called the Republic of Yemen,

Taking into consideration the Ministerial Declaration issued by the fourteenth annual meeting of the Group of 77, held in New York on 3 October 1990, in which the world community was requested to render support for the economic and social infrastructure of Yemen so as to achieve prosperity for its people,

Realizing the difficult economic situation facing Yemen as a result of the merger of the economic and social infrastructure of the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen following their unification, in addition to the new economic and social burden resulting from the situation between Iraq and Kuwait,

1. Expresses its solidarity with Yemen in its efforts to overcome these conditions;

2. Calls upon States and governmental and international non-governmental organizations to extend their assistance in support of the national efforts to improve the economic and social infrastructure of Yemen;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to assist in mobilizing resources and to consider, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/___, developing a comprehensive programme to assess the needs of Yemen resulting from the unification in order to enable the international community to extend assistance to meet those needs;

9/ A/45/487.

4. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1992.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Economic stabilization programmes in developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, containing the Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,

Recalling also its resolution S-13/2 of 1 June 1986, the annex of which contains the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990,

Recalling further its resolution 44/24 of 17 November 1989 on the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-Economic Recovery and Transformation,

Recalling its resolution 44/212 of 22 December 1989 on international co-operation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries,

Deeply concerned about the difficult economic situation facing most developing countries, which has severe political and social consequences,

Reaffirming that the reactivation of economic growth and development in the developing countries will require a concerted and committed effort by all countries and should be addressed in the context of the increasing interdependence and integration in the world economy,

Reaffirming also that a supportive international economic environment and appropriate national policies are crucial to the revitalization of economic growth and development of developing countries,

Recognizing that economic stabilization and structural adjustment programmes are necessary, in many cases, in order to strengthen economic growth and development,

Recognizing also the significant efforts being undertaken by many developing countries in order to achieve the revitalization of their economic growth and development,

1. Stresses that adequate measures should be taken at the international and national levels, as appropriate, to counteract the negative effects of the economic conditions that have prevailed in most developing countries during the past decade;

2. Stresses also the necessity of the integration of the human dimension in the formulation and implementation of structural adjustment programmes with the aim of protecting, in particular, the most vulnerable groups of the population in the processes of adjustment;

3. Stresses further that structural adjustment programmes, in the context of the attainment of macro-economic balance, should contribute to modernization, diversification and growth of the economies of the developing countries and, at the same time, to the fulfilment of the aim of improving the human condition, especially the standard of living and quality of life of people, in particular, the most vulnerable groups of the population;

4. Calls upon appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to monitor and analyse further the relevant socio-economic indicators in order to assess closely the various socio-economic effects of the adjustment programmes;

5. Emphasizes that structural adjustment programmes should contain appropriate measures for long-term and sustained development and, thereby, contribute to the improvement of human and social conditions in developing countries;

6. Emphasizes also that the success of developing countries in stabilizing their economies will depend both on their own efforts and on a supportive international economic environment; in that regard, the international community should continue efforts to find a durable solution to the problems of external indebtedness, to increase the transfer of resources to developing countries, to develop a more open, durable and viable trading system and to enhance access to technologies; the co-ordination of macro-economic policies should take full account of the interests and concerns of all countries, particularly the developing countries;

7. Calls upon Governments, international organizations, multilateral financial institutions, bodies, organs and agencies of the United Nations system to take, within their mandates, appropriate measures, designed to mobilize resources and increase financial flows to developing countries with a view to ensuring that the resources available to them are commensurate with their efforts to stabilize their economies and their structural adjustment programmes, with particular reference to the need for protecting the most vulnerable groups of the population, through, inter alia, social compensatory programmes;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Report of the South Commission

The General Assembly,

Taking note with appreciation of the report entitled The Challenge to the South: The Report of the South Commission 10/ and the overview and summary of the South Commission report, 11/ an important contribution regarding the development process of the developing countries, assessing the achievements, analysing the failings and suggesting directions for reform,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the President of the Economic and Social Council, to convene, within existing resources, not excluding voluntary contributions, during the second regular session of 1991 of the Council, a meeting devoted to an informal exchange of views on the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the South Commission, in particular, in its overview and summary;

2. Invites Governments and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to submit their views on the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the South Commission, in particular, in its overview and summary, for consideration at the aforementioned meeting of the Economic and Social Council;

3. Invites the President of the Economic and Social Council to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the outcome of the informal exchange of views to be held during the second regular session of 1991 of the Council.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

Industrial development co-operation and the diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrial Development and Co-operation 12/ and the New Delhi Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrialization of Developing Countries and International Co-operation for their Industrial Development, 13/

10/ New York, Oxford University Press, 1990.

11/ Prepared by the South Commission as pre-publication information (see A/45/810).

12/ See A/10112, chap. IV.

13/ ID/CONF.4/22 and Corr.1, chap. VI.

Recalling its resolutions 35/66 of 5 December 1980, 36/182 of 17 December 1981, 37/212 of 20 December 1982 and 38/192 of 20 December 1983, as well as other relevant resolutions in the field of industrial development co-operation,

Recalling also its resolution 44/237 of 22 December 1989 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, in which it proclaimed the period 1991-2000 the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and proclaimed 20 November as Africa Industrialization Day, for the purpose of mobilizing the commitment of the international community to the industrialization of Africa,

Recalling further its resolutions 42/186 and 42/187 of 11 December 1987, 43/53 of 6 December 1988, 43/196 of 20 December 1988 and 44/228 and 44/229 of 22 December 1989, relating to environment and development, and reaffirming, inter alia, the need for assistance to developing countries from developed countries and the appropriate organs and organizations of the United Nations system in enhancing their capacity for identifying, analysing, monitoring, managing and preventing damage to the environment by industry in accordance with their national development plans, priorities and objectives,

Reaffirming the Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, adopted at its eighteenth special session, 14/ and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 15/ and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Concerned that, despite an increase in overall industrial production of the developing countries, their share in world industrial production remains at a low level,

Convinced that the reactivation of economic growth and development of developing countries would be facilitated, inter alia, through their industrial development and the diversification and modernization of their productive activities,

Recognizing the necessity of properly assisting all developing countries at their different stages of industrialization, mainly through the development and strengthening of industrial infrastructures, the modernization of production capabilities and the improvement of training techniques,

Recognizing also the responsibility of developing countries to develop their industrial and technological capabilities, and stressing that their efforts should be adequately supported by the international community and that the transfer of

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14/ Resolution S-18/3.

15/ Resolution 45/___.

technology, on appropriate terms, to developing countries and the training of national technical personnel are essential in this regard,

Recognizing further the importance of industrial development for strengthening science and technology and indigenous capacity-building in developing countries, including appropriate institutional infrastructure, such as research institutes, centres of standardization and metrology, and industrial and technological information centres,

Aware that, in selecting patterns of industrialization, the developing countries should take into account the need to generate employment and to incorporate new and emerging environmentally sound technologies,

Convinced that, in order to promote the industrial development of developing countries, their indigenous capabilities in such areas as entrepreneurship, management, technology, financing and marketing need to be built up or strengthened and that technical and financial assistance would need to be extended in support of the national efforts of the developing countries for this purpose,

Recognizing that any viable process of industrialization requires an adequately high and increasing level of demand, which can be substantially reinforced in respect of developing countries through trade liberalization and a sustained improvement in the access of developing countries' exports to the markets of both developed and developing countries,

Recognizing also that steady growth in agricultural productivity can be enhanced in particular through the application of industrial inputs and the mechanization of agriculture, which is possible only if a reasonable pace of industrialization is ensured,

Recognizing further that the promotion of agro-industries plays a key role in the industrialization of developing countries,

Convinced that industrial progress in developing countries can also be significantly enhanced through co-operation among such countries at all levels and by integrating markets, setting up joint ventures and human resources development programmes for training and upgrading skills and the integration of women, which should be among the objectives of policies and measures to promote industrialization in developing countries,

Aware that foreign direct investment in an appropriate domestic context can make an important contribution to industrialization in developing countries, not only by providing additional financial resources, but also as a means of providing access to modern and environmentally sound technologies, skills and markets,

Convinced that entrepreneurship should be encouraged at all levels and in all sectors for the setting up of industries and that there is a strong potential for the development of small and medium-sized industries that could contribute to the expansion of both urban and rural employment opportunities and eradicate poverty,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization as the co-ordinating organ in the United Nations system having primary responsibility for promoting and accelerating industrial development and the transfer of industrial technology to developing countries,

1. Invites developed countries to take fully into account the broad implications of their policy decisions on the international economy, and in particular their effects on the economies of the developing countries, including their industrial development;

2. Recognizes that developing countries need to provide adequate support to their infant industries, when appropriate, in order to enable them to build up competitive industrial capacities;

3. Emphasizes the need for more effective international co-operation through all appropriate mechanisms, including training, workshops, seminars, fellowships and international conferences, in order to facilitate access and transfer to the developing countries of environmentally sound technologies, including new and emerging ones;

4. Requests the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and other international organizations to help developing countries evaluate and select industrial technologies suitable for their development;

5. Recognizes the need to support co-operation among developing countries in this regard, with a view to improving their capabilities in negotiating with technology suppliers;

6. Stresses the role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in assisting developing countries in the formulation of programmes and plans for industrialization in their countries, and recognizes the contribution of the special trust fund schemes launched by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in developing alternatives to traditional assistance programmes;

7. Recognizes that there are significant opportunities for economic and technical co-operation among developing countries with regard to their industrialization and, in this context, recommends that developed countries and international organizations support such co-operative ventures;

8. Also recognizes that in promoting the industrial development of developing countries special emphasis should be placed on an appropriate mix of the agricultural, industrial and service sectors among small, medium-sized and large industries, depending upon the conditions obtaining in each developing country;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, at its forty-sixth session, on ways and means of promoting the enhancement of United Nations activities with regard to the training of scientists, engineers and entrepreneurs from developing countries, with a view to promoting all related sectors and disciplines supporting industrial development co-operation and the diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries;

10. Recommends that the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination examine ways and means of fostering United Nations system activities with regard to industrial development co-operation and the diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries and report thereon, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

11. Recommends that the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in close co-operation with the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, make recommendations to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, with a view to strengthening effectively industrial development co-operation and the diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to give priority in the medium-term plan to the issue of industrial development co-operation and the diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries;

13. Decides to include in the agenda of its forty-sixth session an item entitled "Industrial development co-operation and the diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries" and to include this item subsequently in the agenda on a biennial basis.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

Large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/225 concerning large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas, including enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, which was adopted by consensus on 22 December 1989,

Also recalling in particular that the General Assembly recommended that all members of the international community agree to certain measures specified in the operative paragraphs of resolution 44/225,

Further recalling the relevant principles elaborated in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 16/ which are referred to in the seventh to tenth preambular paragraphs of resolution 44/225,

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16/ Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

Commending the unilateral, regional and international efforts that have been undertaken by members of the international community and international organizations to implement and support the objectives of resolution 44/225,

Noting that at the Twenty-first South Pacific Forum, held at Port Vila on 31 July and 1 August 1990, the Heads of Government reaffirmed their opposition to large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing, 17/ and noting also the resolution on large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing in the South Pacific region, adopted by the South Pacific Conference at Noumea, New Caledonia, on 31 October 1990,

Welcoming the decision of a Member State to suspend driftnet operations in the South Pacific one year in advance of the date of cessation stipulated by the General Assembly, and the decision of other Member States to cease or suspend driftnet fishing,

Noting the meeting of the Authority of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States at Castries in November 1989, which resolved, in its Declaration, 18/ to establish a regional régime for the regulation and management of the pelagic resources in the Lesser Antilles region that would outlaw the use of driftnets and called upon other States in the region to co-operate in this regard, and also the more recent developments in the wider Caribbean Community region,

Noting that there have been recent meetings related, inter alia, to the protection of fish and other living marine resources and the environment in the Mediterranean, including the meeting of the Nine Western Mediterranean Countries on Dialogue and Co-operation in the Western Mediterranean, held at Rome on 10 October 1990, and the meeting on the Mediterranean of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, held at Palma de Mallorca, Spain, from 24 September to 19 October 1990,

Noting also that the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission has concerned itself with large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing in the North Pacific Ocean, including the need to accumulate scientific knowledge, and has supported the full implementation of Assembly resolution 44/225,

Noting further that the International Whaling Commission, at its forty-second annual meeting, in July 1990, referred to the use of large-scale pelagic driftnets in many areas of the high seas, including important habitats for cetaceans encompassing feeding and breeding grounds and migratory pathways, and endorsed Assembly resolution 44/225,

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17/ See A/45/456, annex.

18/ See A/45/64, annex.

Noting that, at its first session, the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development requested the Secretary-General of the Conference, inter alia, to prepare, for submission to the Preparatory Committee at its second session, a comprehensive report on the impact of large-scale harvesting, and new fishing technologies and fishing technologies incompatible with the sustainable management of living marine resources, taking into account Assembly resolution 44/225, 19/

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the report of the Secretary-General 20/ made by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and by various regional and subregional fisheries organizations, in response to the request of the Assembly in paragraph 6 of its resolution 44/225,

Also noting with appreciation the contribution to the report of the Secretary-General made voluntarily by some members of the international community, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations,

Noting that some members of the international community have initiated co-operative efforts to obtain statistically sound data on the impact of large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing,

Expressing deep concern about reports of attempts to expand large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing on the high seas of the Atlantic Ocean by one fishing entity, in disregard of paragraph 4 (c) of Assembly resolution 44/225,

Expressing concern about reports of reflagging of vessels by some private fishing interests, which is contrary to the spirit and content of resolution 44/225,

1. Takes note with interest of the report of the Secretary-General, 20/ and expresses its appreciation for his efforts;

2. Reaffirms its resolution 44/225, and calls for its full implementation by all members of the international community, in accordance with the measures and time-frame elaborated in paragraph 4 of that resolution concerning large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing on the high seas of all the world's oceans and seas, including enclosed and semi-enclosed seas;

3. Also reaffirms the importance of all members of the international community taking such measures as may be necessary to ensure compliance with paragraph 4 (c) of resolution 44/225;

19/ A/45/46, annex I, decision 1/20, para. 1 (o).

20/ A/45/663.

4. Requests the specialized agencies and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as the various global, regional and subregional fishery organizations, to continue to study urgently large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing and its impact on living marine resources and to report their views to the Secretary-General, bearing in mind the dates set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of resolution 44/225;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, and well-established scientific institutions with expertise in relation to living marine resources;

6. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VIII

Inclusion of Namibia in the list of least developed countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the resolution adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris from 3 to 14 September 1990, in which the Conference recommended that Namibia should be given special consideration in support of its economic and social development and invited the General Assembly to consider, in accordance with established procedures, the question of the inclusion of Namibia in the list of least developed countries, 21/

Recalling also the Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the Least Developed Countries, 22/ issued at the end of their meeting in New York on 1 October 1990, which, inter alia, invited the General Assembly to consider the matter,

1. Requests the Committee for Development Planning at its twenty-seventh session to consider the question of the inclusion of Namibia in the list of least developed countries, and to report on its findings to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its second regular session of 1991, and to report on the matter to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

21/ See A/45/695, para. 46.

22/ A/C.2/45/5, annex.

2. Decides to give Namibia special consideration in support of its economic and social development, in accordance with the resolution on economic assistance and least developed country status for Namibia adopted at the Second United Nations Conference of the Least Developed Countries;

3. Encourages all members of the international community and all organizations of the United Nations system to provide all possible support to the fledgling economic and social structures of the new nation of Namibia and to its development aspirations.

43. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

International conference on money and finance for development

The General Assembly decides to defer until its forty-sixth session consideration of the draft resolution entitled "International conference on money and finance for development". 23/

23/ See A/C.2/45/L.4.

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Agenda item 79 (a)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION: INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE FOURTH UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE (1991-2000)

Report of the Second Committee (Part III)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ryszard RYSINSKI (Poland)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 79 (see A/45/849, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (a) was considered at the 53rd meeting, on 10 December 1990. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary record (A/C.2/45/SR.53).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

Draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.72

2. At its 53rd meeting, on 10 December 1990, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade" (A/C.2/45/L.72), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Carlos Gianelli (Uruguay), on the basis of informal consultations.

3. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.72 without a vote (see para. 6).

4. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, made a statement (see A/C.2/45/SR.53).

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* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in eight parts (see also A/45/849, Add.1 and 3-9).

5. At its 54th meeting, on 11 December, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole for the Preparation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade 1/ (see para. 7).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

6. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly

1. Proclaims the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, starting on 1 January 1991;

2. Adopts the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, as set forth in the annex to the present resolution.

ANNEX

International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

I. PREAMBLE

1. We, the States Members of the United Nations, adopt the following International Development Strategy and designate 1 January 1991 to 31 December 2000 as the Fourth United Nations Development Decade. The global consensus reached in the Declaration adopted at the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly (resolution S-18/3) provides the basis for this Strategy. We pledge ourselves individually and collectively to undertake the measures necessary to implement the Development Strategy.

2. The goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade were for the most part unattained. Adverse and unanticipated developments in the world economy wiped out the premises on which growth had been expected. The early years of the 1980s witnessed a recession in the developed market economy countries. Although growth in these countries resumed

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 41 (A/45/41).

in 1983 and was sustained at a moderate tempo virtually without inflation over theremainder of the decade, the period was one of marked imbalances, external as well as fiscal, and of relatively high unemployment. Growth rates slowed down in the countries of Eastern Europe, where the need for structural transformation became increasingly manifest, resulting, by the end of the decade, in sweeping economic and political changes. World trade returned to a path of relatively rapid growth in the second half of the 1980s. But, for the developing countries, the external economic environment over the decade was generally characterized by shrinking resource flows, declining commodity prices, rising interest rates and increasing barriers to market access. During the 1980s, overall growth in the developing countries averaged 3 per cent annually and per capita growth 1 per cent. Over the 1960s and 1970s, by comparison, overall growth in these countries averaged 5.5 per cent and per capita growth 3 per cent.

3. Despite this background, some developing countries, among them some of the biggest and the poorest, succeeded in maintaining a relatively fast tempo of growth and transformation. For most others, however, the decade was one of falling growth rates, declining living standards and deepening poverty. The debt crisis that erupted in 1982 led to the virtual cessation of net commercial bank lending. There was a negative transfer of net financial resources to the indebted countries, whose debt-servicing capacity was further weakened as interest rates grew and terms of trade deteriorated. As a result, the overall growth of developing countries with debt-servicing difficulties was only 1.5 per cent during the period 1981-1990. The decade of the 1980s saw a widening of the gap between the rich and the poor countries. It also witnessed political tensions and conflicts, as well as natural and man-made disasters that were costly and disruptive.

4. If the 1990s are to be a decade of development, this record of unsatisfactory progress and performance needs to be changed. Projections by the agencies of the United Nations system unanimously suggest, however, that in the absence of major changes in policies, the coming decade too will be much like the previous one. While relatively rapid growth is foreseen for some countries of Asia, the prospect is one of continued stagnation for others, particularly in Africa and Latin America.

5. Such a prospect is fraught with danger. Growing populations and young and expanding work forces, as well as rising aspirations associated with the spread of education and the impact of communications, are imposing intense pressures on the political and social fabric of developing countries. Unless these pressures are relieved by decisive improvements in the pace and character of development, economic distress and political and social instability may spread, not only within national boundaries but beyond them as well, and may affect the peace and stability of the world as a whole. In the many developing countries where economic conditions stagnated or declined in the 1980s, absolute poverty became more widespread and conditions deteriorated with regard to nutrition and food security, job creation and education, health care and infant mortality, housing and sanitation. The erosion of living standards and social services brought mounting political unrest to many countries.

6. The interdependence of nations is rapidly becoming far more than a matter of links of trade and finance alone. There are strong trends towards greater openness in the movement of funds, people and ideas around the world. Over the past decade violence, social disorder and terrorism have become more common. Conflicts and upheavals lead to the movement of refugees and international migrants and give rise to problems of border control, admission and assimilation in receiving countries. The illicit traffic in narcotics links the poverty and social problems of the rich countries to those of producers whose traditional crops no longer ensure them a living. Environmental threats and epidemics are often themselves of global scope. These and other related problems can only be aggravated by economic stresses and strains and by the failure of the development process in the developing countries. The entire international community, rich and poor countries alike, have thus a vital stake in ensuring that the 1990s are truly a decade of economic and social progress throughout the world.

7. The prospects for the 1990s, assessed on the basis of the continuation of present policies, can and must be changed. The reactivation and acceleration of the development process is in the interest of all countries. The developing countries can provide a strong stimulus to world trade, investment and the strength and stability of the world economy. They already account for a significant share of the markets of the developed countries. Far-reaching developments have taken place on the international scene that provide new opportunities for reversing the trends of the 1980s. The relaxation of international tensions offers an opportunity for reducing military spending world wide, for a reduction of the strains on national economies and for the application of larger resources to the fight against world poverty. The waning of ideological conflicts is improving the climate of co-operation at all levels. There is no universal prescription for successful development. But a growing convergence of views is emerging with respect to effective approaches to economic and social development and with regard to the potential contributions to the development process of the private and public sectors, of individuals and enterprises, and of democratic rights and freedoms.

8. A strong stimulus to global co-operation is provided by the consciousness of the global consequences of environmental problems and their interaction with both development and the lack of development and by a growing awareness of the threats to the security of nations that could arise from frustrations and tensions in developing countries. Closer integration, in both Europe and North America, in prospect of the 1990s, has the potential to strengthen major economies and their capacity to support global economic growth if accompanied by openness to the outside world. The reform and restructuring of the economies of Eastern Europe and their integration into the world economy can contribute to the strength and dynamism of world trade. Closer co-operation and integration among the developing countries themselves also offer an opportunity to enhance the vigour of the development process. No less important, the rapid advances in science and technology and in global communications are opening up new vistas for productivity improvement, structural change and accelerated development.

9. These changes do not by themselves guarantee a reversal of the present trends and ensure that the development experience in the new decade will differ markedly from that of the 1980s. There are dangers, if the opportunities are not grasped,

of the increasing marginalization of many developing countries in the world economy and of a weakening of the focus on development as an objective of international economic co-operation. But the changes offer a new context for decision-making and policy formulation and for approaches that could reverse the experience of the 1980s. They provide an opportunity for the formulation and implementation of an International Development Strategy that is aimed at releasing the great potential for development that exists in the developing countries and in the world economy.

10. The Declaration adopted at the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly contains a pledge that Member States "will endeavour to take all necessary steps to reverse the adverse trends of the 1980s, address the challenges of the 1990s and move into a more productive decade", recognizing that "such actions should take into account the responsibility of each country for its own development and should be in accordance with its capacity and its impact on the international economy". As in the 1980s, events now unforeseen will undoubtedly put their stamp on the coming decade. This Strategy is flexible. It seeks above all to spell out an agreed understanding on the issues and challenges, the actions and commitments, on the basis of principles for national and international action that will remain valid.

11. Countries have to adapt their national policies to facilitate open exchange and flexible responses to the changing world economy. Effective national policies have a critical role to play in achieving sustained, non-inflationary economic growth in all countries. Such policies should be supportive of investment, as well as of efficient allocation and mobilization of resources in order to achieve durable growth.

12. It is against this background that Member States agree on the following goals and objectives for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade.

II. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

13. The principal aim of the Strategy is to ensure that the 1990s are a decade of accelerated development in the developing countries and strengthened international co-operation. The decade should witness a significant improvement in the human condition in the developing countries and a reduction in the gap between rich and poor countries. It should be one in which ways are found for the world community to meet its needs without degrading the environment. The Strategy also has important social and political objectives. Development over the decade should enhance the participation of all men and women in economic and political life, protect cultural identities and assure to all the necessary means of survival. Each country is responsible for its own economic policies for development, in accordance with its specific situation and conditions, and for the life and well-being of all its citizens. The Strategy should help provide an environment that supports the evolution everywhere of political systems based on consent and respect for human rights, as well as social and economic rights, and of systems of justice that protect all citizens.

14. To achieve these fundamental aims six interrelated goals must be met. They are:

(a) A surge in the pace of economic growth in the developing countries;

(b) A development process that is responsive to social needs, seeks a significant reduction in extreme poverty, promotes the development and utilization of human resources and skills and is environmentally sound and sustainable;

(c) An improvement of the international systems of money, finance and trade so as to support the development process;

(d) A setting of strength and stability in the world economy and sound macro-economic management, nationally and internationally;

(e) A decisive strengthening of international development co-operation;

(f) A special effort to deal with the problems of the least developed countries, the weakest among the developing countries.

15. These goals and objectives pose a big challenge. They call for serious and committed efforts by all countries. The developing countries themselves have the responsibility for the great effort needed to mobilize the potential of their people, to modernize and diversify their economies and to set themselves ambitious targets to build the foundation on which development rests: technical and managerial skills, industrial and agricultural capability, and effective government services. Human resources development, entrepreneurship and innovation, and the energetic application of science and technology, in a context of political freedom, respect for human rights, justice and equity, are all essential and relevant to growth and development. The Strategy has singled out a number of areas of special priority: the eradication of poverty and hunger, human resources and institutional development, population, the environment and food and agriculture. The pursuit of goals in these areas calls for resolute and vigorous action and for styles of development that establish a mutually reinforcing relationship between rapid economic growth and social objectives.

16. The efforts of the developing countries will, however, be easily thwarted by an unsupportive external environment. They will be thwarted if sudden external shocks decimate their national product and external revenues, as happened to many of them in the 1980s. All countries live in the international economic environment, but most developing countries remain imperfectly integrated into it and excessively vulnerable to its instability. Many are captives of external debt problems, of reduction in external resource flows, of sharply declining terms of trade and of mounting barriers to market access. Great obligations fall on the industrialized countries, which influence the international economic environment and the functioning of the international economy and are partners in international co-operation for development. Great obligations fall also on the system of international organizations to extend and fulfil their role in the promotion of development. Developing countries can prosper only in a stable and progressive world economy and, conversely, the world community can have a safe and prosperous

future only if economic, social and political progress in the developing countries is assured.

17. The attainment of the aims of the Strategy calls for more than marginal increases of growth rates. The developing countries must be enabled to generate, progressively, the resources needed to ensure productive employment for a fast-growing labour force, to overcome hunger, disease and ignorance, and to raise living standards. The negative trends of the 1980s need to be reversed and conditions created for a kind of development that signifies a genuine transformation and does more than keep a growing population from the brink of famine. The time has come to move beyond adjusting to the shocks of the 1980s and to lay the foundations for a new wave of development. For most developing countries growth rates must accelerate significantly during the decade. Growth objectives will vary from country to country. For the relatively few countries where growth in the 1980s was satisfactory, the aim would be to consolidate progress and ensure that it is sustained. In the many countries where growth was interrupted, the first requirement is a return to a path of expansion where economic growth does not merely keep pace with but well exceeds the growth of population. In the second half of the decade the foundations for higher rates of growth should have been established. On the basis of the experience of some countries it is considered that sustained growth at a rate of the order of 7 per cent would provide the necessary conditions for a genuine transformation of the economy, with rapid increases in productive employment and poverty eradication, and would generate the resources needed for the protection of the environment.

18. Higher rates of growth in developing countries will reflect progress in the several sectors of the economy and in the pursuit of social and other goals. Although the Strategy does not seek to establish comprehensive and interrelated sectoral targets to be attained by the developing countries as a whole, many of its elements have been addressed in the various parts of the United Nations system. They cover such areas, among others, as employment and health, women and children, industry and technology, agriculture and food, population, education and culture, shelter and settlement, telecommunications, transportation, including shipping, and the environment. Sectoral strategies and plans for significant achievements have been agreed upon by Governments. Translated into goals and objectives for both national and international efforts, ambitious and feasible targets of this kind have proved valuable in focusing policies and in monitoring progress. They also serve as reminders of the progress that can be achieved within a decade with strong political commitment and dedicated efforts.

19. The Strategy must look beyond the constraints of the moment. A decade is not enough to work miracles, but a true decade of development would make a great difference to the world situation on the eve of the next century. Serious development problems would still persist, but the debilitating deadlock of the recent past would have been broken for many developing countries. Their living standards would be rising instead of falling, the younger generation would find employment instead of being condemned to a desperate scurry for survival, and poverty and hunger would be pushed back instead of advancing. Revived investment would lay the foundation for growth in the next century and the energies and talents of the people in the developing countries would be harnessed for building

their own future. The world as a whole would be safer and more prosperous than it will if present trends continue. A continued development failure in the next decade would be an invitation to world-wide disorder.

III. POLICIES AND MEASURES

20. The policies and measures needed to support and realize the Strategy must reflect the urgency of its goals and objectives. They must aim at the acceleration of growth and give attention to issues of special priority in the development process and must respond to special situations, including those of the least developed countries. In each area there are important policies and measures that need to be adopted in a national context by the developing countries themselves. There are equally important policies and measures that have to be adopted by the developed countries in the context of international co-operation for development. The international community as a whole must also strengthen the systems that support the sound workings of the world economy and the development process. The International Development Strategy is thus of relevance to all countries, which must commit their best efforts to pursue its goals within the limits of their abilities and responsibilities. The Strategy does not require unrequited sacrifices on the part of any countries. To the extent that public resources must be used in the pursuit of its goals, they represent investments in a better future world, investments that are strikingly modest by the standard of present defence budgets.

A. The reactivation of development

1. Economic policy frameworks, external debt, development finance, international trade, commodities

21. The reactivation and acceleration of development requires both a dynamic and supportive international economic environment and determined policies at the national level. It will be frustrated in the absence of either of these requirements. The policies and measures needed for the 1990s must therefore cover both aspects. A supportive external economic environment is crucial. The development process will not gather momentum if the global economy lacks dynamism and stability and is beset with uncertainties. Neither will it gather momentum if the developing countries are weighed down by external indebtedness, if development finance is inadequate, if barriers restrict access to markets and if commodity prices and the terms of trade of developing countries remain depressed. The record of the 1980s was essentially negative on each of these counts and needs to be reversed. The policies and measures needed to create an international environment that is strongly supportive of national development efforts in the 1990s are thus a vital part of the Strategy. So too are national policies for development. Their main elements are set out below.

The economic policy framework

22. A surge in development during the decade of the 1990s can take place only within supportive frameworks of overall economic policy, both national and international. The sound macro-economic management of the world economy is of paramount importance. The major industrialized countries, which broadly determine the international economic environment by their policies, have a special responsibility to bring about a stable and predictable international economic environment in which development can succeed. The adverse development environment of the 1980s was in part a consequence of restrictive policies of the earlier years of the decade aimed at combating inflation at the expense of growth. The major industrialized countries influence world economic growth and the international economic environment profoundly. They should continue their efforts to promote sustained growth and to narrow imbalances in a manner that can benefit other countries. The co-ordination of macro-economic policies should take full account of the interests and concerns of all countries, particularly the developing countries. Efforts should be made to enhance the effectiveness of multilateral surveillance aimed at correcting existing external and fiscal imbalances, promoting non-inflationary sustainable growth, lowering real rates of interest and making exchange rates more stable and markets more accessible.

23. The macro-economic policies of the developed countries should take account of the interests and concerns of the developing countries. During the 1980s, the developing countries were seriously affected by increases in real rates of interest and by frequent fluctuations in key exchange rates.

24. The economic policy framework of developing countries helps to shape the national environment for development and will need to take account of the objectives, priorities and particular circumstances of each country. But the acceleration of development will require strenuous efforts on a number of fronts. There is a need for determined policies that aim at increasing domestic savings and raising investments, as well as at improving the returns to investment. National policies must succeed in containing inflationary pressures, which often have adverse economic and social consequences that prove disruptive of development. This calls for monetary and fiscal discipline to promote price stability and external balance and the maintenance of realistic exchange rates without the need for repeated currency depreciations that have often had adverse consequences on social stability and the terms of trade of developing countries.

25. National policies must also be directed at mobilizing all the latent energies and impulses for development within the developing countries, at promoting efficiency in the allocation of resources and at taking advantage of the opportunities for trade, investment and scientific and technological progress provided by a changing global economic environment. The role of the public sector in the development process is essential. Impediments to progress caused by bureaucratic inefficiencies, strains on the administration, excessive controls and neglect of market conditions by public enterprises need to be removed. The policy environment should, within the context of national goals, encourage a creative contribution for the private sector, stimulate entrepreneurship and innovation, and promote the participation of the people at all levels in the development process.

It should provide scope for the operation of market forces and for realistic pricing as a means to greater efficiency and soundness in the allocation of resources. The national policy framework should also enable developing countries to take full advantage of the opportunities of international trade and foreign investment, as well as promote co-operation among themselves. The effectiveness and flexibility of national policy frameworks would be enhanced in a setting of improving political institutions and legal systems. This would be reinforced by conditions that would permit declining military expenditures and thus the channelling of resources released for social and economic development.

External debt

26. For many developing countries, the reactivation of development would not take place without an early and durable solution to the problems of external indebtedness, taking into account the fact that for many developing countries, external debt burdens are a significant problem. The burden of debt-service payments on these countries has imposed severe constraints on their ability to accelerate growth and eradicate poverty and has led to a contraction in imports, investment and consumption. External indebtedness emerged as a main factor in the economic stalemate in the developing countries; there was a large net transfer of resources from the developing to the developed countries, depriving the former of much-needed resources for development. Development during the decade of the 1990s should not be hampered by prolonged failure to resolve the international debt problems. Accordingly, a durable and broad solution to these problems should continue to be given urgent attention as we begin the decade of the 1990s. Innovative solutions need to be found and relief obtained in the initial years of the decade.

27. Recent initiatives and measures to reduce the stock and service of debt or to provide debt relief for developing countries should be broadly implemented. Relief measures should aim at the resumption of vigorous growth and development in these countries and should address all types of bilateral debt of debtor developing countries. Serious consideration should be given to continuing to work towards a growth-oriented solution of the problems of developing countries with serious debt-servicing problems, including those whose debt is mainly to official creditors or to multilateral institutions.

28. Finding a solution to the debt problems is the joint responsibility of debtor and creditor countries, commercial banks and multilateral financial institutions. Debtor countries should continue their efforts to attain efficiency and return to a path of sustained growth by adopting appropriate national economic policies. The creditor countries are encouraged to continue reviewing their tax policies and regulatory and accounting practices in order to facilitate commercial debt and debt-service reduction operations. The multilateral financial institutions should continue to provide support for debt and debt-service reduction packages, with the necessary flexibility, under their established guidelines. Creditor countries should support growth-oriented policies of debtor countries in order to facilitate the resumption of growth and development, as well as the prompt restoration of credit-worthiness of the debtor countries.

29. The measures agreed upon in the Paris Declaration and Programme of Action of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris from 3 to 14 September 1990, on the external debt problems of the least developed countries should be urgently and vigorously implemented.

30. The Paris Club is invited to consider increasing the flexibility of its negotiating mechanism and examining the current criteria of eligibility for debt relief and of the scope of the Toronto initiative for dealing with the debt problem, taking into account, inter alia, the Houston Economic Declaration adopted in July 1990. Measures must continue to be taken to relieve the external debt burden of low-income and lower middle-income countries whose debts are owed mainly to official creditors. Measures to address the external official debt problems of middle-income countries should also be seriously considered.

31. The external debt of the developing countries includes debts owed to financial multilateral institutions. Means must continue to be found by these institutions to relieve the burdens that arise out of such debt in ways that safeguard the high standing of these institutions in financial markets, such as the World Bank Debt Reduction Facility of the International Development Association (IDA) established in 1989 to provide debt relief to severely indebted low-income developing countries.

32. There is a close interrelationship between the external debt problem of the developing countries and the global economic environment. The debt-service burden is aggravated by rising interest rates, declining terms of trade, shrinking flows of external resources, protectionist barriers to trade and slow growth in the world economy, and would be lessened by an improvement in these factors. A marked improvement in the international economic environment, combined with appropriate national policies that take advantage of this improvement, is essential to solve these debt problems and to avoid their proliferation among countries that have hitherto avoided their disruptive consequences.

External development finance

33. Adequate resources, both domestic and external, are an essential condition for the reactivation of development. The developing countries need to mobilize domestic resources to the greatest extent possible and to implement determined policies and measures to this end. In the case of most developing countries, domestic savings contribute by far the larger part of the resources utilized for investment.

34. However, the essence of the development problem is that countries that are poor have limited scope for increasing savings by restraining levels of consumption that are already low. The savings efforts of the developing countries need therefore to be supplemented by external resources so as to raise investment to the levels needed for adequate economic growth.

35. Furthermore, the development process is generally dependent on the flow of imported goods and services that are needed for the growth of the economy. Where export earnings fall short of import needs, the development process would be frustrated in the absence of supplementary flows of external resources.

36. The external economic environment of the 1980s did not favour the flow of external resources to developing countries. Falling commodity prices and protectionist trends weakened the export earnings from many countries, while the flow of development finance was impeded by constraints on aid budgets in the donor countries and, after the debt crisis of 1982, the end of net commercial bank lending to developing countries. In the event, developing countries became less attractive for foreign investors. By the middle of the 1980s, the net transfer of resources to developing countries on the aggregate turned negative because of the burden of debt-service payments. This trend was further compounded by losses incurred by developing countries on account of the deterioration in their terms of trade.

37. These trends have to be reversed in the 1990s if development is to be accelerated. A surge in the tempo of development is virtually unimaginable if the flow of external resources is from the poorer to the richer countries rather than vice versa. This would make meaningless the concept of a decade of development endorsed by the international community. The new consensus on the need for a reactivation of development and on the priorities of development policies calls for a new commitment on the part of the international community to augment the flow of development finance to the levels needed to attain these agreed goals.

38. A reduction in the burden of debt-service payments, as discussed earlier, is an essential requirement for reversing the negative trends relating to the flow of external resources for developing countries. But there must also be significant improvements in the flow of finance for development from the major sources of such finance, that is, official bilateral assistance, commercial bank lending, direct private investment and the multilateral financial institutions. Such improvements, when taken as a whole, should be adequate for the requirements of development finance in the 1990s. Merely to restore a positive net transfer to the developing countries in a foreseeable future within which no substantial flows of commercial credits can be expected, net official flows of loans and grants from all sources, which remained virtually constant at $35 billion in the 1980s, would have to grow substantially in the first half of the 1990s.

39. Economic reforms and the integration of Eastern Europe into the world market will generate substantial new demands for resources. This enlargement of the international division of labour will be to the benefit of all, but such needs should be met without diversion of the flows needed by developing countries.

40. Official development assistance (ODA) must remain an essential source of concessional aid to the developing countries, particularly to the poorest and the least developed. Aid programmes of donor countries have in many cases remained at low levels and need to be substantially improved in the 1990s. ODA has on average remained at only half of the internationally agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product (GNP). Donor countries should, in the 1990s, implement such undertakings as they have made to reach or surpass this target, as well as the targets for the least developed countries as adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. There should also be continued improvements in the quality of aid as well as in its utilization. The release of resources from any reductions of military spending and the recovery in the

industrial countries should ease the budgetary constraints of donor countries and rising concern about the environment and world poverty should provide new opportunities for development co-operation.

41. New possibilities for increasing the flow of development finance in the 1990s should also be explored. These include proposals for devoting part of the resources that may be released by the disarmament process and reduced military spending to development and for recycling to the developing countries, through suitable mechanisms and modalities, a part of the payments surpluses of major developed countries.

42. Commercial bank lending, in the aftermath of the debt crisis, has ceased to be a major source of development finance. However, a resumption of commercial bank lending is relevant in the context of both solutions to the debt problem and the needs of the developing countries, particularly those which are not recipients of significant concessional aid. The reactivation and acceleration of growth and an improvement in the global economic environment will help restore confidence in the creditworthiness of borrowing countries and facilitate the return of flight capital. None the less innovative changes will also be needed to evolve instruments of lending that help cushion borrowing countries against a recurrence of debt-service problems.

43. Foreign direct investment, which is not generally debt creating, could play an increasingly important role as a source of development finance, particularly when international trade is growing and markets are expanding and new opportunities are opened up by scientific and technological developments. Transnational corporations are already channels for technology transfer, world trade and marketing. Many developing countries are seeking, to the extent compatible with national objectives, to establish a positive investment climate and to adopt appropriate investment codes.

44. The need for development finance is unlikely to be met exclusively through the channels of offical development assistance, commercial bank lending and direct private foreign investment. The multilateral financial institutions could and should play a major role in the 1990s in the finance of development. Despite the efforts that have been made to enlarge the resources of the institutions in order to meet new needs, they will in the 1990s have to be considerably expanded. Their resources have been falling behind the growth of the world economy and especially behind that of the world capital markets. The net lending of the World Bank and regional development banks was, by the late 1980s, negligible or negative for a large number of developing countries. These institutions should be enabled to serve the role of intermediation between developing countries and the international capital market, for which they were designed. The conditionality associated with the use of resources should be realistic and in accordance with the need to ensure effective utilization by recipient countries.

45. The international monetary and financial system must evolve in the 1990s and respond to the needs of a changing world, which now calls for universal co-operation. It should become an increasingly important source of both development finance and international liquidity. It should provide greater

stability and predictability in exchange rates. Developing countries should have greater influence in decisions that affect them vitally.

International trade

46. The goal of reactivating development requires a strongly supportive environment for international trade in general and for trade of the developing countries in particular over the decade of the 1990s. The international trading system is the pillar of an interdependent world economy and should establish conditions of openness and fairness in the interests of all countries. Growth and development and the solution of the pressing problems facing the developing countries are dependent on an open and credible multilateral trading system based on the principles of non-discrimination and transparency. Outward-looking development policies and export-based industrialization will not succeed if export markets are limited by restrictive barriers. The international trading system will function best in an environment of growth and dynamism in the world economy, an environment to which the system itself will contribute. But it needs to be strengthened further in the 1990s by specific actions and measures.

47. Policies and measures in the area of international trade must be directed, in the first place, at arresting and reversing trends, particularly apparent during the 1980s, towards the erosion of the multilateral trading system as a result of unilateralism, bilateralism and protectionism. The international organizations in the field of trade should be strengthened to play their part in the achievement of this objective. Many new issues that reflect the changing nature of the world economy are pertinent to the evolution of the international trading system. But the strengthening of the trading system also requires the resolution of a number of ongoing issues, some of which are of special interest to developing countries and are crucial to the development process.

48. The acceleration of development in the decade of the 1990s should, inter alia, be supported by the following actions and measures in the field of international trade:

(a) Full and effective implementation of the commitment to halt and reverse protectionism, as undertaken in the Punta del Este Declaration. Protectionist trends of the 1980s have an adverse impact on the world economy and on the development process and performance of the developing countries and should not continue in the 1990s. Recourse to non-tariff barriers of various kinds, which has tended to increase in recent years, has affected the exports of developing countries;

(b) Trade liberalization and a sustained improvement in the access of developing country exports to the markets of both developing and developed countries through the reduction and removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers. Rapid structural adjustment in the developed countries in line with shifting comparative advantages will facilitate market access for the growing export capabilities of developing countries that arise in the course of their economic transformation. The rules of the international trading system recognize the need for differential and favourable treatment of developing countries in the context of

the other principles set out in the Punta del Este Declaration. This need should be reflected in the functioning of the system;

(c) Liberalization of trade in tropical products and natural resource-based products. This should include the removal of the escalation in tariffs on processed primary products;

(d) Bringing trade in textiles under the normal rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT);

(e) Progressive and substantial reduction of support and protection in the field of agriculture;

(f) Effective implementation and appropriate improvement of the generalized system of preferences, expansion of product coverage, duty-free treatment and adherence to the principles of non-reciprocity and non-discrimination in its application;

(g) Measures to ensure that regional economic integration and the formation of trade blocs will not impede the growth of world trade and are in conformity with GATT rules. In particular, it is necessary to ensure that such developments do not result in additional barriers to developing country exports;

(h) Strict adherence to the rules and principles of GATT by all contracting parties.

49. Developing countries should endeavour to liberalize their trade régimes in ways consistent with their development objectives so as to improve the efficiency and flexibility of their economies and their participation in the world economy. They should create trade opportunities among themselves and promote more rapid industrialization, in particular through the effective implementation of the Global System of Trade Preferences. There is great potential for economic integration among developing countries and new efforts should be made during the 1990s to establish effective subregional and regional market arrangements among them.

50. The successful and balanced conclusion of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, which aims at strengthening the international trading system, is crucial for progress in the 1990s. The treatment of new issues, hitherto outside the scope of the rules of the system, should take account of the development dimension and of the need for developing countries to build up their own capabilities. The dialogue and negotiations about required improvements in the international trading system should be continued and expanded in the 1990s. The dialogue should focus, inter alia, on an equitable balance of interest between developed and developing countries, the adaptation and reform of the system to ensure its relevance to the changing patterns of international trade, and the need to ensure greater co-ordination between international trade and financial policies.

Commodities

51. The terms of trade of the developing countries are an important aspect of the international economic environment for development. The depressed levels of commodity prices and earnings of developing countries from commodity exports were an important element in the slowing down of the development process in many developing countries in the 1980s. Technological change played some part in depressing the long-term trend of demand for certain commodities. But slow growth and instability in the world economy and persistently high supplies were factors of critical importance. Commodity exports will continue to play a key role over the 1990s in the economies of most developing countries and will remain crucial to their export earnings and livelihood. For these countries, the reactivation of development during the decade will prove difficult in the face of continued weakness in their commodity sectors and terms of trade and will require a flexible response on the supply side to changing market conditions. The Strategy for the 1990s must aim at better functioning of commodity markets with greater transparency and more stable and predictable conditions. There is scope for improving international commodity policies in a number of ways.

52. The Integrated Programme for Commodities sought to improve the functioning of commodity markets through commodity agreements between producers and consumers, with support from the Common Fund for Commodities. The negotiation and renegotiation of such agreements proved difficult in the rapidly changing world economy of the 1980s and a number of existing agreements broke down. There has been hardly any lasting improvement in most commodity markets since then and the need for remedial action remains urgent. Commodity agreements between producers and consumers that improve the stability, transparency and functioning of markets and reflect long-term market trends benefit both producers and consumers, and efforts should be made to negotiate or renegotiate agreements of this type in the 1990s. The first window of the Common Fund was established for the specific purpose of supporting such international commodity agreements.

53. The diversification of the economies of developing countries and their increased participation in the processing, marketing and distribution of their commodities is of the utmost importance. The second window of the Common Fund for Commodities should be effectively used in this regard, particularly for technical assistance and for commodity-specific programmes for horizontal and vertical diversification, especially for the least developed countries. The diversification process should also be supported through the provision of improved market access for primary and processed commodities. Co-operation among developing countries could also play a significant role in the processing, transportation and marketing of commodities.

54. Compensatory financing is an important means of cushioning developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, against commodity-related shortfalls in export earnings. Existing compensatory financing schemes, particularly the Compensatory and Contingency Financing Facility of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), should be strengthened as appropriate.

2. Science and technology, industrial policies and measures, agriculture

55. A solution to the debt problem, adequate resource flows and a supportive environment in the areas of international trade and commodity markets are among the prerequisites for the reactivation of development during the 1990s. But a sustained acceleration of the development process will not take place unless developing countries modernize and transform their industrial and agricultural sectors and participate in the progress made possible by advances in science and technology. National policies in these areas must reflect the particular situations. But many issues have strategic aspects that are widely relevant. These are set out in the sections to follow, as a guide both to national efforts and to the support that is possible and needed through international development co-operation. In virtually all areas of effort there is scope and need for supportive financial and technical assistance from donor Governments, multilateral lending institutions and international agencies. There are also possibilities and requirements for co-operation among developing countries.

Science and technology

56. The reactivation of development in the decade of the 1990s on a sustained base would be closely related to the ability of the developing countries to participate in the rapid advances in science and technology that have characterized the global economy in recent years and will continue in the future. Knowledge is today a crucial determinant of economic progress. The knowledge gap between the developed and the developing countries has been widening and policies and measures are needed to help narrow it over the coming decade. High priority must therefore be given by the developing countries to raising their endogenous capacities and capabilities in this area.

57. Development and modernization in a setting of rapid advances in science and technology call for the establishment and strengthening of scientific cadres and for upgrading the skills of the work force. Developing countries, in their plans and policies, should emphasize policies and measures that enhance their scientific and technological capability, and devote adequate resources to that end. Such policies must range from the expansion and adaptation of their educational systems, including vocational education, to the building up of scientific and technological research and development capabilities.

58. Policies and measures in this field should seek to enhance the capacity of developing countries to utilize scientific and technological developments from abroad, as well as to modify and adapt them to suit local conditions. Such policies should also aim at traditional technologies that are capable of being developed as a means of raising productivity.

59. Building the scientific and technological capability of developing countries calls for external assistance in research and development, in the establishment and strengthening of institutions in the area of science and technology, in the diffusion of new technologies and in the training of scientific cadres. Developing countries should not be discriminated against with regard to commercial access to

science and technology for development purposes. Commercial channels for the import of technology, including direct foreign investment, are especially relevant and should be utilized on suitable terms and conditions. In addition, with respect to access and transfer of technology on concessional and preferential terms, in particular to developing countries, effective modalities should be examined with a view to implementing and enhancing such access and transfer as much as possible.

60. The international community should also review ways in which the intellectual property system can promote more effectively the economic and technological development of all countries, particularly the developing countries, and in which intellectual property can be effectively protected. Work on the international code of conduct on the transfer of technology should also be completed.

61. There is considerable scope for co-operation among developing countries in the development of science and technology. The developing countries could help each other by the establishment of common institutions and centres for research and training, by the pursuit of joint projects for technological research and development, by the offer of facilities for education in science and technology among themselves and by the exchange of information. Science and technology must be given a prominent place in schemes for co-operation among developing countries at the global as well as at the regional and subregional levels.

Industrial policies and measures

62. An acceleration in the process of industrialization must be a central element in the economic transformation of most developing countries and in the reactivation of development in the 1990s. Given the limits to agriculture as a means of providing increased employment and additional external earnings, industrialization becomes indispensable for sustained economic growth and social development. It is also through industrialization that developing countries could make use of many of the opportunities provided by advances in science and technology and by international markets. Policies and measures to promote industrialization must thus be a major plank in the Strategy for the 1990s.

63. Some notable exceptions apart, manufacturing industry stagnated in many developing countries during the 1980s. These countries experienced a chronic underutilization of existing industrial capacity, a lack of maintenance, import constraints and technological obsolescence. These problems were at times compounded by mismanagement. For these countries, the rehabilitation of their industrial sectors and an end to the underutilization of capacities must be objectives of priority. The rate of industrialization will obviously vary among countries, but for many countries, especially for those where manufacturing industry was set back in the 1980s, historical experience suggests that the objective should be to raise it significantly, say, to 8 to 10 per cent.

64. Industrial progress requires investments directly related to increasing manufacturing capacity. It is also dependent on an improved and modernized infrastructure in such areas as communications and transport, power and banking and finance. It is dependent too on a supportive policy framework in the fiscal and monetary fields. Not least, it is crucially dependent on managerial and technical

skills and on a trained and efficient work-force. Industrial development must also make use of linkages with other sectors of the economy, particularly the rural sector, which could supply both materials and markets for industrial growth. These subjects must form an integral part of the policies and measures that developing countries need to take for industrial progress during the decade. But there are also certain other major issues of policy that are central to faster progress in industrialization and that may call for new orientations. These are outlined below.

65. One such issue concerns the relative roles of the public and private sectors. In the past, many developing countries, anxious to speed up industrialization and faced with a weak and inexperienced private sector, sought to establish manufacturing enterprises owned and run by governmental entities and enjoying a high degree of protection. Experience has shown that there can be limitations to such an approach, particularly when administrative capacities are strained. State-run enterprises can be hampered by bureaucratic rigidity and inefficiency, and lack flexibility, competitiveness and innovative power. The capabilities of the private sector have grown in many countries and there is considerable scope for enhancing the contribution that private enterprise can make to a dynamic process of industrialization. Entrepreneurship should be encouraged at all levels for the setting up of industries. There is usually a strong potential for the development of medium- and small-scale industries that could also contribute to enlarging both urban and rural employment opportunities. Where industries are under public ownership, efficiency should be improved through measures that increase their flexibility and their ability to respond to changing conditions.

66. Another issue is that of industrial production for exports as against production for the domestic market and import substitution. The establishment of industries supplying domestic markets is desirable because of market proximity, linkages with other sectors and reduced dependence. But there are often limits to the scope for import-substituting industries, particularly where markets are small. In these cases, policies based excessively on import substitution supported by highly protective barriers result in high cost and inefficiency. Production for export is a means of overcoming these limitations. It becomes a virtual imperative where the scope for additional agricultural exports is limited. It is also a means of keeping step with technological progress and of closer integration with global markets, since exports call for efficiency and competitiveness.

67. The goal of industrialization calls for the building up of domestic ownership and national managerial and technological capabilities. But direct foreign investment can make an important contribution to industrialization. Such investment not only provides additional resources, but is also a means of having access to modern technologies, skills and markets. The rules and regulations of developing countries should encourage direct foreign investment in ways in which mutual interests are furthered. The constraints to the flow of external resources from other sources give added importance to direct foreign investment as a means of augmenting this flow.

68. The progress of industrialization in developing countries, and of outward-looking development in general, is closely related to openness and non-discrimination in international markets. The implementation of the measures

needed in this area, as set out in the section on international trade, such as the lowering of tariff and non-tariff barriers and measures to further structural adjustment in the developed countries, form an important part of the strategy for industrialization.

69. Industrial progress in developing countries can also be significantly enhanced through co-operation among such countries at the global, regional and subregional levels. The integration of markets of developing countries, the setting up of joint ventures and programmes for training and upgrading skills must be among the objectives of policies and measures to promote industrialization during the 1990s.

Agriculture

70. For many countries, agriculture, with its large contribution to the national economy, will remain the principal means for the revitalization of economic growth during the 1990s. To the extent that countries depend on the export of agricultural commodities to world markets, progress will be closely related to the implementation of the measures outlined earlier for strengthening international trade in commodities. But agricultural production in the developing countries also meets the requirements of production for the domestic market to meet the need for food and other products of both the farming and the non-farming population. The acceleration of development calls, therefore, for a special focus on policies and measures aimed at raising agricultural output and at strengthening food security and self-reliance in food.

71. The transition from a traditional system of cultivation, sometimes at a subsistence level, to modernized agriculture should be the underlying aim of agricultural policy. In many developing countries, the pressures on available land are already high and there are limits to what can be achieved through an extension of the area under cultivation. Where such possibilities remain, measures could be taken to bring new land under cultivation through programmes of irrigation and land settlement, provided that adverse environmental consequences, such as could arise from excessive forest clearing, are avoided. In great part, however, progress in agriculture is heavily dependent on raising productivity on lands already under cultivation. The scope for this could be large given the gap, often wide, between current productivity and technical potential.

72. There are several important components of the policies and measures needed for raising agricultural production and productivity. An annual rate of growth of the order of 4 per cent on average in food production would make a major contribution to food security and support agro-industrial development. But the great diversity of country situations means that there is no single set of policies of general applicability. Success will often depend on the removal of key constraints, which vary greatly from country to country. However, policies and measures based on the considerations set out below will be of broad applicability.

73. Success in reaching the potential for raising agricultural productivity requires a farming population possessed of the knowledge, the incentives and the means required for this purpose. Improving the knowledge and skills of farmers calls for the diffusion of technology relating to agricultural practices and the

use of improved varieties, as well as for the continued development and adaptation of technology through research. This underlines the importance both of effective extension efforts and services and of measures to enhance the capabilities of research institutions. The successful adoption of better methods and technologies is crucially dependent on incentives that link the use of superior methods to prospects for farmers to improve their standard of living. The price incentive is especially important, particularly in the context of the transition from subsistence farming to modernized agriculture. Policies that depress the prices of farm output in order to protect or subsidize living costs for the population at large are often counter-productive. A policy framework that permits more realistic prices that better reflect market situations often yields better results. Such a framework must also remove the shortcomings in marketing, distribution and storage that lead to an excessive gap between retail and farm prices.

74. Farmers must also have access to the means of raising agricultural productivity. Economic units of land and secure systems of tenure are often prerequisites for agricultural progress. Facilities for irrigation and a strong infrastructure of transport, communications and power, as well as other services that overcome the remoteness of rural areas, are among the others. A strong network of rural banking and credit is also vital to help farmers procure inputs and make the investments needed for raising production.

75. Policies and measures aimed at raising agricultural production need to take account of the linkages between agriculture and other sectors of the economy. The link with the industrial sector is especially important, since industry is a source of farm inputs and of consumer goods for the rural population as well as a source of demand for agricultural products. Agro-industries located in rural areas can provide both a stimulus to agriculture and a source of employment for underutilized labour. In a more general sense, there is also a close link between the productivity of farmers and the extent and quality of educational and health services and of housing available to the rural population.

76. There is often considerable potential for improving the contribution of women to agricultural progress. In most developing countries, women form an important part of the active farming population and of the agricultural labour force. Policies and measures to increase their productivity and involve them more in key decisions should raise their contribution to output and their incomes. Schemes for rural self-help and for the mobilization of labour for community development and for the upgrading and maintenance of the rural infrastructure can also play an important part in the drive for agricultural progress.

77. A number of steps are also needed at the international level. Finance for investments in the agricultural sector and technical assistance should form part of programmes for development co-operation, both bilateral and multilateral. Developing countries should have assured access to advances in such fields as biotechnology and genetic engineering, at appropriate costs. The removal of existing distortions in international trade in agriculture is also essential. In particular, the achievement of this objective requires that there be substantial and progressive reduction in support and protection of agriculture - covering internal régimes, market access and export subsidies - in order to avoid inflicting

large losses on the more efficient producers, especially in developing countries. Special importance is attached to the successful outcome and effective follow-up of the Uruguay Round in the area of agriculture, tropical products and natural resource-based products, taking account of the needs of the net food-importing developing countries.

B. Priority aspects of development

78. An acceleration of the rate of economic growth is an essential objective for the 1990s. It is a condition for expanding the resource base of the developing countries and hence for economic, technological and social transformation. But economic growth by itself does not ensure that its benefits will be equitably distributed or that the physical environment will be protected and improved. Yet, if poverty persists or increases and there is neglect of the human condition, political and social strains will grow and endanger stability in the 1990s and beyond. Similarly, if environmental damage and degradation increases, the natural resource base of the developing countries and the welfare of populations will be harmed and progress in development itself will become unsustainable. The Strategy for the 1990s must therefore give special attention to the policies and measures needed in the areas of poverty alleviation, human resource development and the environment. It must also pay special attention to the related areas of population growth and the elimination of hunger. The decade of the 1990s must witness a significant improvement of the human condition everywhere and establish a mutually reinforcing relationship between economic growth and human welfare. The need to strengthen this relationship is, in fact, a principal theme of the present Strategy. It has not only to be reflected in national efforts but assisted by the international community through financial and technical support.

1. Eradication of poverty and hunger

79. The international community, noting the severity of poverty problems in developing countries, agrees that the objective of eradicating poverty is of the highest priority. It is encouraging that a broad consensus is emerging on strategies to be pursued towards the achievement of this goal.

80. The goal of eradicating poverty calls for policies and measures on two broad fronts. It calls, in the first place, for a style of development in which economic progress is distributed as widely as possible and not concentrated excessively on a few localities and sectors or limited groups of the population. It also requires, to the extent that poor and vulnerable sections of the population are not reached by this process, special and supplementary programmes and actions that are directly targeted to bring benefits to these groups.

81. The generation of employment and incomes through productive occupation is a major means of eradicating poverty since the absence of an adequate income through landlessness or the lack of opportunities for work is a prime cause of poverty. Development programmes and processes that provide employment on a large scale are thus an essential need. The sectors and the regions in which development takes

place and the technologies adopted must be such as to have a significant impact on employment. This must be an important consideration in establishing the balance between growth in the agricultural, industrial, construction and other service sectors. The creation of employment and incomes through the activation of the informal sector of the economy and through the expansion of self-employment activities should also be an important part of policies to improve incomes and eradicate poverty.

82. Progress in development, even when occurring on a broad front, might still bypass significantly large sections of the population, particularly the poorest and most vulnerable. Special programmes and measures that are aimed directly at increasing their real incomes are thus likely to prove necessary. These could include the provision of cheap and subsidized food and other essentials, as well as income support for the poorest and the destitute. They could also include programmes of training and of mobilization of labour for local self-help and community development as well as for production. Such programmes establish a link between poverty eradication and productive activities. The provision of facilities at low cost in such areas as health, education and transport is also a means of raising the real income of the poor. Measures to relieve homelessness or poor housing should be another major aspect of poverty eradication programmes. The increase in the number of homeless people in many developing countries has been one of the serious manifestations of the deteriorating human condition, and the improvement of human settlements as agreed in the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 should be part of the crucial effort in this field.

83. Women and children are a particularly vulnerable group in situations of poverty. Policies and measures for poverty eradication should have a particular focus on their needs and give special attention to maternal and child health care and to nutrition. Food security is also a major aspect of the fight against hunger and poverty and calls for an integrated approach to food production and consumption.

84. Policies and measures that are specifically directed at poverty eradication must be carefully targeted on that part of the population which is in need. Subsidized facilities and services that are general in scope and bring benefits to groups that are not in need are normally costly and impose excessive strains on the limited resources available to developing countries. Subsidies of a general nature could also contribute towards distorting prices and may, as in the case of food, have adverse effects on incentives for domestic production.

85. Developing countries need not await the transformation in per capita incomes to do away with the extremes of poverty, particularly hunger and destitution. Some developing countries with low per capita incomes have succeeded in obtaining relatively good results in the social field. In the long run, however, economic growth is needed to raise living standards and eliminate poverty. Long periods of stagnation or low growth might make unsustainable the initial gains in the social area.

86. The struggle against poverty is the shared responsibility of all countries. Poverty eradication, as well as broad humanitarian and social goals, such as advancement in the quality of development, broad participation, larger choice and

better opportunities for all men and women, needs and should have the full support of the international community. A substantial reduction in hunger and malnutrition is within reach. There is considerable scope for international food aid going beyond emergency situations. Member States must give effect to agreements already reached to make all efforts to meet four goals during the decade:

(a) To eliminate starvation and death caused by famine;

(b) To reduce malnutrition and mortality among children substantially;

(c) To reduce chronic hunger tangibly;

(d) To eliminate major nutritional diseases.

2. Human resource and institutional development

87. Human resource development has the closest of interactions with the process of economic and technological transformation. In a broad sense, it covers a wide range of activities that release the creative potential of the individual and determine the style of development. Each country has to choose its approach to human resource and institutional development in accordance with its national priorities, values, traditions and cultures, and stage of development. Education and health are, however, essential aspects of human resource development and must receive special attention.

88. Education is both a basic human need and a prerequisite for the achievement of the other objectives of development. The educational skills of the labour force determine to a large extent a country's competitive strength and its capacity to adjust to new and sophisticated technologies. In a number of developing countries, expenditure on education declined in absolute or relative terms during the 1980s against the background of a worsening economic situation, and there was a resulting deterioration in the quality of education. Attention needs to be given, in the light of country situations, to each of the aspects of the educational system. The eradication of illiteracy needs special emphasis, including its eradication among women. A target of reducing adult illiteracy by at least one half during the decade has already been set by the international community. But a sound base of primary and secondary education is a basic requirement. Policies and measures in this area must provide for the relatively rapid increase in the population of school age that accompanies the growth of population common to most developing countries. In fact, the goals for the decade of providing universal access to basic education and of the completion of primary education by at least 80 per cent of the school-age group have been internationally accepted. This calls for adequate resources, both financial and administrative, capital and current, for the provision of facilities and materials and for the recruitment of teachers. At the same time there is a need to ensure that the expansion of the educational base does not result in a deterioration of quality and is supported by policies to train and retain teachers. The content of education at the primary and secondary level must also be relevant to a country's need for economic, social and political progress. In the framework of action to meet basic learning needs, it is important to ensure the speedy implementation of the World Declaration on Education for All, adopted by the World Conference on Education for All, held in Thailand in March 1990.

89. The increasingly important role that knowledge plays in determining economic progress in a rapidly changing global environment of science and technology gives a new urgency to upgrading and transforming the scientific, technological, entrepreneurial and managerial aptitudes of the population. This calls for an emphasis on higher education and on the development of the institutional base for the training of skilled cadres as well as for vocational training. It also calls for policies and incentives that are conducive to retaining skilled personnel in their countries on a voluntary basis. The skills of the work force at all levels may well be the key to progress in the 1990s and beyond.

90. In the field of health services, special attention needs to be given to primary health care and the prevention of chronic diseases as well as to general development objectives such as sanitation, safe drinking-water and nutrition. This will help relieve the strains on the curative medical system to which increasing numbers tend to have recourse as a result of population growth, education and social change. Policies and measures in the field of health need to give special attention to women and children. Several targets for the decade have already been agreed upon by the international community. These include the reduction of under-five mortality rates by one third or 70 per 1,000 live births (whichever saves more lives); the reduction of malnutrition among children under five by one half; and the halving of maternal mortality rates. The participatory and environmental aspects of health care should be emphasized in the design of programmes. There should also be a special focus on preventing the spread of epidemics and other diseases that are endemic in many developing countries. Urgent steps need also to be taken for the control and prevention of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).

91. As in the field of education, policies and measures for health must pay increased attention to institution-building and the training of skilled health personnel at all levels. Here again conditions have to be created that encourage the retention of skilled cadres.

92. Human resource development could also be promoted by co-operation among developing countries. Developing countries could benefit by opening to each other their centres of quality for higher education and training. They could benefit by the exchange of teachers and of personnel in the field of health and by the sharing of experiences. They could also profit from the joint operation and management of institutions for human resource development, particularly at the regional and subregional levels.

93. The developed countries have an important role to play in promoting human resource and institutional development. Apart from investment support and technical assistance for the supply and use of equipment and for curriculum development, a major contribution can be made by the developed countries through the provision of facilities for the training of skilled cadres. Education abroad has always played an important part in the training of skills in developing countries. But in the 1990s and thereafter its role can be vastly enhanced because of rapid developments in the field of knowledge and the urgent need of the developing countries for larger cadres of skilled personnel. At the same time, the developing countries should be assisted in building up their own institutions for training and higher education. As development progresses, there is need for them to enhance their self-reliance in this field.

94. Human rights and human development are ends in themselves. All human resource activities are mutually reinforcing. Careful analysis, policy design and effective management in education and health programmes will be required and the support of agencies of the United Nations system should play a vital role. Given the interrelated nature of human resource development activities, inter-agency co-ordination in education, health, nutrition, housing, employment, child welfare and the advancement of women requires close attention. There should be programmes to integrate the elderly in development.

3. Population

95. Population programmes should be integrated with economic goals and strategies. The 1990s will see the largest increase in the population of developing countries of any decade in history, an increase of well over 20 per cent. The decade will also witness the aging of the world population. The demographic situation varies among countries, but in most developing countries a lowering of the rate of population growth will relieve the strains on the social situation, economic growth, the environment and the use of natural resources. Population growth rates are in fact beginning to decline in a number of developing countries. Over half of the developing countries are pursuing active policies to reduce the rate of population growth, and important lessons have been learned from this experience. The education of women, improved maternity and child care, and family planning services suited to the socio-cultural environment of individual countries have proved to be effective and successful instruments of population programmes and should be further pursued and strengthened. Assistance to developing countries in the area of population should be substantially increased during the 1990s. Developing countries should also intensify their efforts to allocate adequate resources to population programmes.

4. Environment

96. The current threat to the environment is the common concern of all. All countries should take effective action for the protection and enhancement of the environment in accordance with their respective capacities and responsibilities and taking into account the specific needs of developing countries. As the major sources of pollution, the developed countries have the main responsibility for taking appropriate measures urgently. The economic growth and development of developing countries are essential in order to address problems of the degradation and protection of the environment. New and additional financial resources will have to be channelled to developing countries. Effective modalities for favourable access to, and transfer of, environmentally sound technologies, in particular to developing countries, including on concessional and preferential terms, should be examined.

97. The General Assembly, in its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989, has set important goals for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992. These goals need to be realized.

IV. SPECIAL SITUATIONS, INCLUDING THOSE OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

98. Over two decades ago, the United Nations adopted criteria to identify the countries that were economically the weakest among the developing countries and that faced the most recalcitrant structural problems. It was recognized that these countries, designated the least developed countries, needed special support measures from the international community in their efforts to transform their economies and to improve their prospects for sustained development. In 1981, a special United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries adopted the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, in which a number of measures to support the development process in these countries were agreed upon. The measures included the setting of a target of 0.15 per cent of the GNP of the developed countries for concessional aid to the least developed countries.

99. However, these very countries, and others that were among the poorest and the weakest, were the hardest hit by the difficulties that arose in the 1980s on the world economic scene. In terms of the criteria initially adopted, the number of countries falling into the category of "least developed countries" - instead of declining as a result of successful development - actually increased from 24 in 1972 to 41 in 1990. The measures taken by the international community to support the least developed countries did not suffice to offset the adverse factors that affected their development experience in the 1980s. In the light of developments in the world economy there is a risk that these countries will become increasingly marginalized; this risk needs urgently to be avoided.

100. In September 1990, the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries was held in Paris, underscoring the principle of shared responsibility and strengthened partnership for the growth and development of the least developed countries and calling for mutual commitments and strengthened joint efforts on the part of both the least developed countries and their development partners. The programme of action adopted at the Conference needs to be fully implemented. Broad requirements have been set out. The present ODA targets, as agreed at this Paris Conference, should, in the first instance, be met. Special attention is needed to facilitate increased access of exports of the least developed countries to major markets. Enhanced compensatory financing for export earnings shortfalls should be considered. Donors should take the necessary steps to provide further bilateral concessional debt forgiveness to the least developed countries. All donors are urged to implement Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (S-IX) as a matter of priority in such a way that the net flows of official development assistance should be improved for the recipient. The Paris Club should consider the application of the Toronto terms to all the least developed countries in accordance with established procedures and criteria; the Toronto options should be reviewed, taking into account the July 1990 Houston Summit Communiqué; and proposals for further debt relief should be examined urgently. Financial institutions, particularly those providing non-concessional credits, are invited to give serious attention to measures to alleviate the burden of the debt that least developed countries owe to them.

101. The special development problems of the land-locked developing countries and of the island developing countries also call for special attention. Measures are needed to lift the constraints on their development arising from the special transportation and communications problems they face, from their limited internal markets and from their high degree of vulnerability to environmental damage and natural disasters.

102. These measures should aim at reducing the cost to those countries of access to and from the sea and world markets, improving the quality, efficiency and reliability of transit-transport facilities and diversifying their economies.

V. ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

103. The organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system have a special responsibility for the pursuit of the goals and objectives of the present Strategy. The system has played a unique role in bringing the development issue to the attention of the international community. Through its studies on the several aspects of the development problem, both national and international, through the international conferences it has convened on major issues, through the understandings, conventions and agreements it has helped to negotiate - some of them of a legal or quasi-legal character - and not least through the technical assistance it has provided to developing countries, it has made an invaluable contribution to ideas, policies and actions in the realm of development. This role must not only continue but must be strengthened and expanded in the 1990s with the support and encouragement of Member States.

104. Virtually every aspect of the Strategy falls within the areas of concern of the various parts of the United Nations system. In many such areas and sectors, goals and targets for the coming decade and the actions needed for realizing them have already been agreed upon by Member States and are crucial to the implementation of the Strategy. The Strategy also provides guidelines for further work on the evolution of policies and programmes and on seeking agreements for new actions. Major conferences of the United Nations system are already scheduled for the initial years and there will be others in the period beyond. These will be important occasions for reaching agreements that give more specific content to the actions and commitments needed to realize the goals of the Strategy.

105. The organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system have thus a vital role to play in furthering the analytical work of relevance to the elaboration and implementation of the Strategy, in promoting and securing the needed international co-operation and in providing technical assistance. The work of the international system should be given greater coherence by closer inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination and by organizational measures that strengthen the contribution of the system to development. The Strategy provides an initial framework for these objectives. The review of the functioning of the United Nations system should continue to be pursued with this aim in view; all of its Member States have a responsibility for making it more effective and efficient.

106. The Secretary-General is encouraged to continue, by such means as he deems appropriate, his efforts to facilitate the solution to the debt problems of developing countries, taking into account all relevant proposals. In addition, the relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system should undertake follow-up measures pertaining to the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations.

107. The growing interdependence in the world economy and the increasing linkages between various issues, such as money and finance, trade and development, give a new urgency to the co-ordination of macro-economic policies and management at the international level. The United Nations should play its role in this area as envisaged in the provisions of the Charter relating to the functions of the Economic and Social Council.

VI. REVIEW AND APPRAISAL

108. A process of review and appraisal should be an integral part of the International Development Strategy so as to ensure its effective implementation. This process should be undertaken at the national level by the respective Member States. But it needs also to be undertaken within the United Nations system at the global, sectoral and regional levels. It should provide an occasion to give the necessary political stimulus, in the light of evolving needs and developments. It must be expected that conditions in the course of the decade will change in ways that cannot now be foreseen, and there is thus a case for permanent monitoring and periodic review, allowing, when necessary, for amendments and revisions to the Strategy.

109. The recent events in the Gulf region are having repercussions on the immediate economic outlook of many countries, particularly in energy and trade balances. While it is not possible, in view of the uncertainties, to take account of them at present, it is important to keep the situation under review to determine whether in the context of the Strategy additional measures are required.

110. The organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system will play an important catalytic role in the implementation of the goals and objectives of the present International Development Strategy in their respective areas of competence.

111. The machinery for continued monitoring exists: the various agencies of the United Nations system and the regional commissions issue annual reports, which, in effect, monitor the state of progress in virtually every area of international development. Governments participate in numerous debates in the specialized agencies, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, in which the state of progress in international development is a major theme. In this sense, review and appraisal is already built into the procedures of the United Nations.

112. Nevertheless, review and appraisal relating directly to the progress of the Strategy as a whole is also needed on a periodic basis. This should be carried out biennially by the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council, with an item on the implementation of the Strategy included in their agenda. The Secretary-General should submit appropriate recommendations in order to assist this process of review and appraisal.

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

DRAFT DECISION

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole for the Preparation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole for the Preparation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade. 2/

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 41 (A/45/41).